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## ***Daily Report***

# **Near East & South Asia**

FBIS-NES-93-236  
Friday  
10 December 1993

# Daily Report

## Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NE-S-93-236

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## Arab-Israeli Talks

### Peres Comments Following Talks With 'Arafat

TA0912145593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said, following his meeting with Yasir 'Arafat in Granada, that Israel and the Palestinians hope to begin the implementation of the agreement of principles on time, that is, next Monday [13 December]. Speaking at a news conference after the 75 minute-long meeting, Peres said they did not negotiate, rather exchanged views over the relevant issues on the agenda. Mr. Peres said that both sides denounce terrorism and will do everything possible to stop the violence. Mr. Peres stated that the meeting enabled him to obtain an updated picture of the situation, adding he will brief the prime minister in order to plan the next moves.

Our envoy in Granada Gid'on Kouts reports that during the meeting, Shim'on Peres criticized the PLO's positions, stating its assessment of the situation is erroneous and that various demands it is making—such as in the economic sphere—are ill-advised.

Yasir 'Arafat, for his part, said his internal and external situation is difficult. Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh also participated in today's meeting.

Shim'on Peres and Yasir 'Arafat later participated in a ceremony to receive the key to the city of Granada and a token of peace. They later appeared before a conference of Israeli and Palestinian intellectuals organized by UNESCO. Our correspondent notes that Shim'on Peres and Yasir 'Arafat shook hands and smiled profusely while they sat on the podium. Yasir 'Arafat, however, did not appear in the ensuing news conference, but rather flew directly to Tunis. Apparently he will meet Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer there this evening.

### Discusses Public Mood

TA0912203493 Jerusalem New Channel 2 Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by political correspondent 'Imanu'el Rosen following Peres' 9 December meeting with 'Arafat in Spain—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Rosen] Do you share the view that everything should be resolved by 13 December—namely, that difficult decisions should be made at once without waiting for further developments?

[Peres] This is precisely my view. I do not believe a delay will benefit the main issues in any way. The sooner we decide the better we will serve the cause.

[Rosen] Sir, we have heard various reports, which probably worry the Israeli public too, doubting Yasir 'Arafat's ability to run the new system which may be complicated for him. Is this apprehension founded?

[Peres] Suppose it is; what is the alternative? I think neither the Palestinians nor we have an alternative. Voicing pointless criticism and doubts is useless. Of all those willing to opt for peace, 'Arafat is nowadays the leading figure. The others, who may be in a better or a worse position, are in a bad position as far as we are concerned, because they do not want peace.

[Rosen] Do you think Israel will have to compromise, to cede on the issue which seems the toughest of all right now—the question of who will control the border crossing points—or is that an issue over which compromise is inconceivable?

[Peres] There can be no compromise on any question pertaining to Israel's security. We do not intend to compromise on any issue which can harm state security.

[Rosen] Sir, a black mood prevails in the country. People are worried, dissatisfied with the events, and newspapers carry shocking headlines. Do you believe all this truly reflects the situation?

[Peres] It does bother me, because instead of being swayed by the Knesset and the political parties, the country is now swayed by forces other than political parties in an arena other than the Knesset. In fact, radical views are voiced on television and other media very disproportionately. Rather than reflect a mood, they create a mood. Look, for instance, at all the statements that the recent terrorist attacks are linked to the peace process and the Oslo agreement. It is totally untrue. [passage omitted]

### Shahaq Meets With PLO Envoys in Geneva

TA1012054693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Text] Head of the Israeli delegation to the autonomy talks Major General Amnon Shahaq met yesterday in Geneva with PLO representatives to resolve differences. The differences emerged in drafts both sides presented at the Cairo talks on implementing the Israel-PLO accord. The Israeli draft agreement reportedly includes an Israeli evacuation of installations in the territories, the freeing of 1,000 prisoners, and the appointment of Mansur al-Shawwa as mayor of Gaza on December 13. Al-Shawwa has said he would accept the offer only if all factions, including Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], agree to sit on the city council.

Qol Yisra'el's military correspondent adds that police are continuing to increase their presence in the territories. Security sources say they expect rejectionist groups will continue their attempts to sabotage the withdrawal process.

### Shahaq-PLO Meeting Detailed

TA1012104993 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Dec 93 pp A1, A10

[Report by Aluf Ben, Eytan Rabin, Nitzan Horowitz, and Gay Bekhor]

[Excerpt] Major General Amnon Shahaq, head of the Israeli delegation to the talks with the PLO, and Jacques Neriya, the prime minister's political adviser, conferred in Geneva yesterday with two representatives of the PLO. [A report on page 5 of Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 10 December identifies the PLO representatives as Jibril al-Rijub and Muhammad Dahlan, "two of 'Arafat's advisers."]

Security issues that have come up in the talks between Israel and the PLO featured in the meeting. These issues were described by senior government sources as "sensitive security issues unrelated to the main channel of the talks or the solution of the main disagreements with the PLO." According to these sources, the decision to send such high-level officials to the meeting was meant to secure the attainment of understandings with the PLO representatives.

Shahaq and Neriya were scheduled back in Israel late last night to brief Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. The decision to send Shahaq to Geneva was made after he returned from Cairo Wednesday night. [passage omitted]

#### Fatah's Bal'awi Meets Israeli Housing Minister

JN0912131993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Telephone interview with Hakam Bal'awi, member of the Fatah Central Committee, in Tunis by Sa'id Mu'addi—live]

[Text] [Mu'addi] Good afternoon Mr. Hakam Bal'awi.

[Bal'awi] Good evening.

[Mu'addi] You met yesterday, and perhaps today, with Israeli Construction and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer. Would you tell us about the details of this meeting?

[Bal'awi] I met with Construction and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer. I can say that the meeting with the construction minister was productive, useful, and fruitful. I listened to his views on the prospects of the peace process and the ongoing talks. Also, I reviewed all the difficulties in the peace process, particularly with regard to withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho. This has not been accomplished yet and needs a real Israeli will and genuine desire to implement the agreement in accordance with its provisions in terms of contents and dates. The agreement sets 13 December as a date for the beginning of full Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza and the Jericho area, not the city of Jericho. The agreement says the Jericho area, which is different from the Palestinian city Jericho.

[Mu'addi] Mr. Hakam, it is known that Jacques Neriya, the prime minister's adviser for political affairs, is now in Tunisia, and he might have left Tunis. Did he convey new proposals from Israel regarding the obstacles to the Israeli-Palestinian agreement?

[Bal'awi] Mr. Jacques Neriya, who, I believe, is one of Mr. Rabin's advisers, is not currently in Tunisia. He might come to Tunisia. In the past, he visited us in Tunisia and met with President 'Arafat and some officials. He conveyed some incomplete ideas from Mr. Rabin. He listened to the full Palestinian viewpoint which shows a real understanding and awareness of the responsibility to implement the agreement which expresses a strategic Palestinian desire and will to achieve a genuine comprehensive peace.

I believe that Mr. Jacques Neriya will come to Tunisia in the next few hours. We will discuss with him such matters which have not yet been resolved. I think there will be surprises during the coming hours, and I hope they will be happy surprises for the Palestinian and Israeli people with regard to peace and achieving peace based on withdrawal from the Palestinian territory and on establishing an independent national Palestinian entity.

[Mu'addi] Mr. Hakam Bal'awi, thank you very much.

#### Both Sides Said Disappointed With Draft Agreements

TA1012110893 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Dec 93 pp 1, 4

[Report by On Levi and Dan Avidan]

[Excerpt] Israel and the Palestinians have expressed their disappointment with the draft agreements compiled and exchanged by the delegations. The Israeli draft refers to security, economic, and civilian issues, such as procedures for safeguarding settlements and roads, the authority of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces], control of the border crossings, and the size and composition of the Palestinian police force.

Israeli sources expressed disappointment with the draft submitted by the Palestinians. The position reflected in the 30-page document attests to a big gap between the two sides.

Discussing the implementation of the autonomy agreement, a senior security source close to the Israeli delegation said: "The impression gained from the draft agreement presented by the Palestinians is that nothing has been done to date, as if we had not been talking for the past two months. The Palestinians remained in their old position, and we are kind of back to square one. The gap between the sides is so vast that even two weeks will not be enough to bridge it. If the agreement is signed on schedule, it will be like a 'Hanukkah miracle.' I do not think it can be done unless one of the sides makes a significant concession." [passage omitted]

[A report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on pages 1 and 10 of Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 10 December quotes "high-level sources" as saying that "'Arafat will not set foot in either Gaza or

Jericho until a full and signed agreement about the establishment of self-rule is attained."

[The sources hope "an agreement will be attained within a few weeks, seeing that both sides have an interest in bringing the negotiations to a positive conclusion because of the acute opposition in the Israeli and Palestinian camps."]

#### **Shat'h on Agreements, 'Arafat-Rabin Meeting**

NC0912125893 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Cairo, 9 Dec (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa today met with Dr. Nabil Shat'h, head of the Palestinian delegation to the peace negotiations, who stated after the meeting that Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in Cairo on Sunday [12 December].

Dr. Shat'h said that he briefed Musa on the results of the Palestinian-Israeli talks, noting that draft agreements on total withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho were exchanged yesterday. He said that the Israelis presented a draft that is difficult to accept but that it is the subject of negotiations.

He added: We are engaged in intensive negotiations on these two draft agreements. But there are great difficulties in amending the text submitted by Israel to make it acceptable to the Palestinians.

Dr. Shat'h said: The Palestinian-Israeli negotiations will continue in Cairo and al-'Arish today and tomorrow because we do not want to waste time, with the deadline for the start of the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho coming up next Monday.

He said that the Palestinians are holding to this date to preserve credibility. However, he noted that there are extreme difficulties in reaching an agreement by next Monday, 13 December, because of the Israeli position during the negotiations.

Dr. Shat'h affirmed that the Palestinians cannot make any concessions for the implementation of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement on time. He said: We want to reach an acceptable agreement by 13 December consistent with the Declaration of Principles agreement signed by the PLO and Israel in Washington on 13 September.

Dr. Shat'h expressed the hope that 'Arafat and Rabin will be able to resolve the problems. If this cannot be done, I hope the delay will not be more than a few days or one week at the most, he said. He added that the Israelis have not made any new proposals regarding the crossings in Jericho and Rafah. He said that the Israeli delegation to the al-'Arish Committee created obstacles to prevent agreement on issues pertaining to the transfer of civilian authority.

Dr. Shat'h praised the role that Egypt is playing on the Palestinian issue. He said that Egypt is the only state that fully supported the Palestinian position during the negotiations.

[In a related report, Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic at 1830 GMT on 9 December reports: "Palestinian Ambassador in Cairo Sa'id Kamal has said that Egypt is currently exerting strenuous efforts to advance Palestinian-Israeli negotiations. He noted that the expected meeting between Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in Cairo on Sunday [12 December] under the auspices and in the presence of President Mubarak is intended to overcome the current obstacles between the Israeli and Palestinian concepts of the autonomy powers and the points of disagreement."]

#### **Subcommittee Resumes Meeting in al-'Arish**

NC0912145493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Al-'Arish, 9 Dec (MENA)—The Palestinian-Israeli subcommittee resumed its meeting in al-'Arish today to continue discussion on the transfer of civil authority and autonomy powers. The two delegations agreed to reach a final agreement before Monday 13 December, the date set to begin implementing the Palestinian-Israeli agreement.

An official source in the Israeli delegation stated that economic topics were discussed to ensure protection of local production in the region, be it Palestinian or Israeli, and to coordinate exports and imports. They also discussed ways of preserving agricultural produce and animal wealth. He said that the Israeli delegation prepared a detailed draft including all topics that have been settled, those that are still disputed, and others that will be discussed in the future.

A Palestinian source stressed that 13 topics have been discussed in various civil and security areas, noting that the points of disagreement will be referred to the main committee in Cairo for discussion and agreement.

#### **Palestinian Negotiator on Transfer of Power**

NC1012092793 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0610 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Telephone interview with Jamil al-Tarifi, head of the Palestinian subcommittee in charge of the transfer of civil powers from the Israeli administration to the Palestinians, in Jerusalem by Ashraf 'Abd-al-'Aziz in Cairo; date not given; from the "Dialogue From Afar" program—recorded]

[Text] [Ashraf 'Abd-al-'Aziz] Mr. al-Tarifi: Good morning and welcome to Voice of the Arabs.

[Al-Tarifi] Good morning.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] The subcommittee you chair, which deals with the transfer of powers from the Israeli civilian administration to the Palestinian national authority, concluded its meeting in al-'Arish yesterday. Could you tell us about the results of this meeting?

[Al-Tarifi] We have completed the transfer of 19 powers from the Israeli civilian administration in Gaza and Jericho to the Palestinian national authority. Now there is an agreement on all formulas concerning the transfer of these powers. There are approximately 15 or 19 points that we are still negotiating.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] You agreed on 19 powers and 19 more remain for agreement. What are the outstanding points about?

[Al-Tarifi] Actually there are some economic issues that must be discussed by the economic committee meeting in Paris. Some principles need to be defined regarding economic cooperation between the Palestinian National Authority and Israel. Thus, no progress can be made on the transfer of these powers until they are discussed by the Paris committee. There are other powers that cannot be tackled or made the subject of proper negotiations until the security committee reaches agreement on a number of issues, such as city planning. This issue is quite complicated and is related to security. When we talk about transferring powers to the Palestinians there must be an understanding about the kind of exceptions regarding security that will be made for the Israelis, so that all the other powers can be transferred to the Palestinians.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] What are the results of the talks between Nabil Sha'ath and Shabaa?

[Al-Tarifi] My information is that two draft documents on the final agreement were exchanged between our Palestinian delegation and the Israeli delegation.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] Mr. al-Tarifi: What is the Palestinian impression so far of the talks with the Israelis?

[Al-Tarifi] As far as we are concerned, we are absolutely committed to implementing this agreement as stipulated. We are not ready to give up any Palestinian rights. The Israelis always approach this agreement from two narrow angles: the security angle, and that of the settlements and how to protect them. I believe that of all the problems that have come up, and could arise in implementing this agreement between us and the Israelis, these obstacles will remain until they are cleared up and the Israelis realize that peace will provide real security and is the only way to guarantee security for them and for us. Security will not be secured through the occupation of 200 meters here or there.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] There are reports that the implementation of the agreement may be delayed. Would you accept such delay or will 'Arafat and Rabin settle this matter in Cairo?

[Al-Tarifi] The fact is that the only authority that could accept or reject this is the Palestinian leadership. I believe that the main goal before us is to not delay the Israeli withdrawal beyond 13 April 1994. This is essential. We also believe the agreement on beginning to implement the agreement on 13 December must be respected and is sacred. As for the Israelis, they must prove their credibility by honoring the specific deadline of this agreement.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] What is the significance of Israel's attempt to delay the implementation of the agreement beyond that date?

[Al-Tarifi] I really do not know the significance, but I hope that the Israeli government is as eager for peace as we are, so the agreement can be put into practice.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] Concerning the crossing points...

[Al-Tarifi, interrupting] There is a delay in reaching an agreement because there are some outstanding points.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] Are they about security?

[Al-Tarifi] About security and other issues related to security.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] Is it a card that Israel is using pressure you to give your approval on other issues?

[Al-Tarifi] We are very clear, brother Ashraf, in that we will not make any concessions. The agreement is very explicit about full Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho and the transfer of all powers and authorities exercised by the Israeli civilian administration and the Israeli military administration to the Palestinian National Authority. We will not make any concessions whether there is there is pressure or not.

[Abd-al-'Aziz] Thank you Mr. al-Tarifi, and thanks from the Voice of the Arabs.

[Al-Tarifi] Thank you.

### Palestinian Affairs

**'Arafat Hopes To Arrive in Jericho by End of Jan**  
*TA1012120693 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in*  
*Hebrew 10 Dec 93*

[Report by Orli Azulay-Katz in Tunis]

[Excerpt] "I will arrive in Jericho at the end of January or, at the latest, the beginning of February. That is what I want and hope," PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat stated yesterday in an interview with YEDI'OT AHARONOT.

Asked whether he believes all the disagreements will have been settled by then, 'Arafat replied: "Both nations share a common fate. There are problems on your side, and there are problems on our side. Everything can be solved. What is needed is faith, flexibility, and goodwill."

I met 'Arafat yesterday at Tunis airport after he returned from Granada, Spain aboard his private plane. 'Arafat proceeded to the VIP room to bid farewell to Construction Minister Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, who had been visiting Tunis. [passage omitted]

**'Ashrawi Confirms Resignation as Spokesperson**

JN1012102593 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Text] Hanan 'Ashrawi has stressed that she has resigned the position with which she had been charged since the Madrid conference; namely, spokesperson of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks. She said that she resigned this post to work within the independent Palestinian committee for human rights, and not to protest Yasir 'Arafat's way of running the PLO, as was announced today by Swedish radio. Hanan 'Ashrawi said: What was announced by Swedish radio is completely wrong. I do not want to begin my work with criticism at this delicate stage.

She added that she rejected the post of the PLO representative in Washington, as well as any other official post because she wants to work in the field of human rights.

**Further on Reasons for Resignation**

JN1012130093 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1102 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Interview with Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian negotiating delegation, by Qol Yisra'el correspondent Sa'id Mu'addi; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Mu'addi] Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, a Swedish newspaper cites you as having criticized Yasir 'Arafat about his way of running things and the negotiations. What is the truth behind this?

['Ashrawi] In fact, I did not say any of this. However, what I specifically said is that I will not accept work in an official position. Still, I will work on preparing the higher Palestinian committee for human rights, which is being formed in an official but independent manner, to protect basic liberties and democracy and to institutionalize this democracy for the forthcoming national authority.

[Mu'addi] Dr. 'Ashrawi, what is the reason behind this announcement at this critical and decisive stage?

['Ashrawi] In fact, when I was asked about my program or future plans, I told them that I will not be part of any official authority, but would work within this independent committee to protect human rights and to have some sort of control over the coming national authority. I want to be part of the society, not part of the national authority.

[Mu'addi] Dr. 'Ashrawi, don't you think that this announcement may weaken the Palestinian position in

the territories, especially since you are considered in the territories as one of the most prominent PLO leaders?

['Ashrawi] On the contrary, I believe that this strengthens the Palestinian position because the strong and self-confident people establish these independent institutions to entrench democracy and human rights.

In my opinion, establishing these institutions is something that is required, especially since this institution is officially committed to respect its independence and nature of its work. Therefore, I see in this real preparation for a future stage, a difficult transitional stage. It is not a weakening of the Palestinian position, but an attempt to build future institutions in a democratic and real manner that serves public interest.

[Mu'addi] Has Yasir 'Arafat accepted this request?

['Ashrawi] Yes. President 'Arafat accepted this and is committed to respecting the freedom and independence of the Palestinian institution.

[Mu'addi] Dr. Hanan 'Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation, thank you very much.

['Ashrawi] You are welcome.

**'Abd-al-Shafi on Accord, 'Arafat, 13 Dec Deadline**

AU0912173293 Berlin DIE TAGESZEITUNG in German 8 Dec 93 p 3

[Interview with Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, "PLO chief negotiator before the conclusion of the Gaza-Jericho agreement with Israel," by Julia Albrecht; place and date not given: "We Must Get Our House in Order"]

[Text] [Albrecht] Mr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, after the signing of the Gaza-Jericho agreement on 13 September you withdrew from the negotiations between the PLO and Israel. Why?

['Abd-al-Shafi] Peace can only be achieved under fair and just conditions. The Gaza-Jericho agreement, however, leaves the problem of Israeli settlements unsolved. On the one hand, it speaks of autonomy of the occupied territories, while, on the other, Israel reserves itself the right to retain sovereignty for the settlements. Therefore, it is a bad agreement. Israel occupied the Gaza Strip and the West Bank in June 1967 and began to settle there. In the same year, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 242, which includes a ban on occupation and a request for immediate withdrawal. This resolution should have been implemented immediately, but nothing happened. From the very beginning, the Israelis behaved like an occupying power. Israel was condemned by the Security Council again and again—yet to no avail. The current agreement rules out real autonomy for the Palestinians in these territories from the very beginning.

[Albrecht] In the Gaza-Jericho agreement, the Israelis for the first time recognize the "legal and political rights" of the Palestinians. Is that not some improvement?

[Abd-al-Shafi] This argument has always been brought forth. The Israelis say that Jerusalem should be included in the next negotiating package. Yet, this does not mean anything; or would they continue building there, otherwise? Another example: what does it mean when the agreement says that Israel will withdraw its troops? Now they are only speaking of "regrouping." Is this an improvement? I think there will never be a Palestinian state.

[Albrecht] Why did 'Arafat not consult you for the talks on the agreement?

[Abd-al-Shafi] Maybe he was scared of my way of conducting negotiations or my minimum demands.

[Albrecht] How will things go on?

[Abd-al-Shafi] The agreement is a fact. However, I do not know how one could solve the problem, and, besides, it does not matter. As long as the question of the settlers is not solved, all other issues are of secondary importance.

[Albrecht] When you take such a negative view of the agreement how come you wrote a letter to 'Arafat two weeks ago assuring him of your support for the agreement and stating that you want to help to improve it through "steadfastness and patience."

[Abd-al-Shafi] Now that we have been confronted with the agreement, we have to do something with it. It is not my style to boycott important decisions, but I reserve myself the right to voice harsh criticism. In my letter to 'Arafat I emphasized that we must democratize our own party, the PLO. We must put the Palestinian house in order. Only then will we have a chance to become a stronger partner in the negotiations. I have held this position for a long time. When it became clear that we would not achieve any progress in the negotiations in Madrid and Washington, I said that we must remember our own abilities and concentrate our forces. The problem is that we now have the agreement, but have not yet put our house in order.

[Albrecht] And what does 'Arafat say on your position?

[Abd-al-Shafi] He won't listen.

[Albrecht] The PLO does not have any experience with democracy. Who should it be guided by?

[Abd-al-Shafi] The lack of democracy is the biggest problem in the entire Arab world. I told 'Arafat that he must modify the decision-making process; so far, the PLO Executive Committee is not answerable to anybody. In future, the leadership should involve all groups within the PLO in all important decisions. We should start with the democratization of the PLO on the occasion of the first direct, free and general election, which, under the agreement, has to be held in about 10 months.

[Albrecht] Does the radical Hamas organization constitute a problem for the PLO and for democracy?

[Abd-al-Shafi] Hamas is not against democracy, although it has its own ideas about how the problems should be solved. At the moment, the Israeli Government is playing into the hands of the ideology of Hamas by how it is acting in the occupied territories, and maybe this is exactly what Israel wants. I am not afraid of Hamas. Yet, even such movements can be brought under control only democratically.

[Albrecht] The PLO Executive Committee restricted 'Arafat's powers at the end of last week. What do you think of that?

[Abd-al-Shafi] 'Arafat has obviously provoked resistance within the PLO through his autocratic rule. He realized that he has to change the way in which he is leading the PLO.

[Albrecht] According to information received from high-ranking PLO representatives in Tunis, 'Arafat approved of postponing the withdrawal of Israeli Armed Forces from the occupied territories by another two weeks—even though before he insisted to Rabin that 13 December was "sacred." Why that sudden change of opinion?

[Abd-al-Shafi] You have to ask him.

[Albrecht] Will the postponement affect the atmosphere? Will violence increase again?

[Abd-al-Shafi] Not necessarily. It will certainly increase existing doubts about the agreement, and the Palestinians will be greatly disappointed about the postponement. Yet, it does not mean that violence will necessarily be stepped up. All recent incidents were provoked by Israel. If they intend to withdraw, anyway, why are they still hunting for wanted people? Why are they seeking confrontation with young demonstrators? Nevertheless, there are signs that the soldiers will no longer act as tough as before. Today, for example, there was a meeting between Israeli military representatives and Fatah leaders in the Gaza Strip. I do not think that putting off the troop withdrawal will further escalate the situation.

#### 'Tension' Surfaces in Ties With Jordan

PM1012110293 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 9 Dec 93 pp 1, 4

[Report by Salamah Ni'mat: "'Arafat Declines To Sign Economic Agreement With Jordan"]

[Excerpts] Amman—Jordanian and Palestinian sources yesterday expressed concern about the signs of tension appearing in PLO-Jordanian relations after Palestinian President Yasser 'Arafat declined to sign the economic agreement reached last month between officials from both sides. [passage omitted]

According to Palestinian sources, Abu-'Ammar ['Arafat], who sees himself as a head of state and is treated as such by many states, was unhappy about the fact that neither King Husayn nor Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam

al-Majali received him at the airport but sent Deputy Prime Minister Ma'n Abu-Nuwar instead.

The sources say that Abu-Nuwar, former information minister, was not a good choice because of the statements he made before the Jordanian elections which were seen as undermining Jordanian-Palestinian relations and national unity. Abu-Nuwar had hinted in one of his statements that the Palestinians would have to give up their Jordanian citizenship if they took part in the Palestinian elections scheduled to take place in July according to the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles.

PLO sources say that the government's justification of the way the Palestinian president was received "was not convincing."

It was also noted that a second meeting that was scheduled to be held between King Husayn and 'Arafat Monday evening did not take place despite the fact that King Husayn himself said at his joint news conference with Christopher (on the same day) that he would meet with 'Arafat that evening. [passage omitted]

Jordanian and Palestinian sources warn of the dangers inherent in the continuation of differences between Jordan and the PLO and the adverse effects it would have on the situation in both Jordan and the occupied territory. They add that Israel is trying to exploit these differences in order to get better terms in its negotiations with both parties. [passage omitted]

Observers have noted that Islamic Deputy Hammam Sa'id, one of the Islamic Action Front leaders, emphasized in his speech during the Jordanian House of Representatives' confidence vote session last Sunday that the West Bank "is an integral part" of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and that "under the Constitution, that part should not be given up." [passage omitted]

#### **Lebanon Deportees Told Agreement Reached on Return**

NC0912102293 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic: 0945 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] According to our correspondent in the western al-Bayqa', the Palestinian deportees in Marj al-Zuhur camp were informed today that the date for their return to their homes has been set at 13 December. This information was relayed to the deportees by Shaykh Hamid al-Bisawi in Gaza following his meeting with Israeli officers in Rafah.

Our correspondent added that three Israeli helicopters flew over the eastern sector of the border area this morning. One of the planes landed in Tallat 'Ayn Qinya. A number of Israeli officers disembarked and started monitoring the area north of Habbayya as well as the deportees' camp in Marj al-Zuhur.

#### **Commentary Stresses Continuation of Intifadah**

LD0912221793 (Algeria Voice of Palestine in Arabic) 1702 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Palestinian people today mark the sixth anniversary of the outbreak of the blessed Palestinian intifadah, which was sparked off on 8 December 1987 following the deliberate killing and their immediate martyrdom of four Palestinian citizens in Jabalyah camp by the Zionist occupation forces. The fires of the intifadah spread to all parts of the occupied homeland. Our people presented caravans of martyrs, tens of thousands of wounded and handicapped, and thousands of detainees.

The intifadah is the result of a long struggle accumulating in the hearts of the Palestinian people, and it is the young shoot of the Palestinian revolution which began on 1 January 1965 for the sake of freedom, national independence, and the defeat of occupation.

Today's anniversary is marked in an atmosphere charged with tension and defiance as the occupiers try to circumvent the text and content of the recent agreement by delaying his withdrawal from Gaza and the Jericho area on 13 December. This will only make us more determined to continue the intifadah and to check the forces of Zionist occupation, and violence will make us more resolute. This procrastination will only make us more determined to continue the struggle until the Palestinian flag is raised over the homeland.

Today we remember our martyrs, past and recent, and those who died so that our people can live. We stress the pledge and continue the march in order to attain the aims for which they were martyred—the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, whose capital city is Holy Jerusalem. There is no alternative to that, no matter how long the road and how far away the homeland. The people who irrigated their land with the blood of their sons will inevitably reap the victory, no matter how long this may take. We have great confidence in our people; we have greater confidence in its struggle and greatness.

#### **Jibril Urges 'Mass Strikes' Against Israel**

JN0912190843 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic: 1730 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Excerpts] Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), has addressed a message of greetings to the masses of our people on the glorious intifadah's beginning of its seventh year. [passage omitted]

In his message, Ahmad Jibril said: O sons of our people, do not be misled by the promises of the engineers of the Camp agreement. 'Arafat is trying to make you believe that Gaza will be a new Hong Kong or Singapore. These promises are false and are meant as a cover for more concessions of land

and rights. These promises are a gateway to deepening the economic crisis, and later carrying out a mass deportation policy from the West Bank and Gaza, in line with the aims of Zionism and the Jews.

The PFLP-GC secretary general addressed the masses of our people: You should have hope that achieving victory over the enemy is inevitable and possible. Deliver more strikes against the enemy soldiers and the settlers and agents. This is the beginning of the end, not only to the Gaza agreement but also to the overall Jewish scheme in Palestine and the region.

Ahmad Jibril added: On this anniversary, I call for the unity of the strugglers and fighters in the 10 factions. I also call for a broad national unity embracing all those who reject the Rabin-Arafat conspiracy. This unity should stand up to this American-Zionist onslaught and defeat it. There is no power on earth that can defeat a people who have decided to die for the sake of living.

Ahmad Jibril went on: 'Arafat and his cohorts thought that our people would kneel before the grand conspiracy. The international partners and Rabin thought that the Oslo agreement would come to pass. However, their calculations proved wrong. The Islamic and nationalist resistance has escalated; more martyrs are falling; more spears and knives are being sharpened; and the revolutionaries, like giants, are emerging from every street and camp. More people are also being killed by the enemy. Neither the 'Arafat police nor the occupation troops, nor the joint alliance between the agencies of the Tunis leadership and the Mosad and Shabak agencies, can suppress the wrath and revolution of the people. Whenever the executioners persist in their crimes, the drops of blood turn into fire that burns traitors, renegades, and conspirators. [passage omitted]

#### **Factions Assail U.S. Policy, Tunis Leadership**

*TA0912170493 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 9 Dec 93 pp 1, 15*

[Text] An official spokesman for the unified command of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] has made the following statement:

In coordination with Russia and Norway, Washington is planning to present a draft resolution to the UN General Assembly totally ignoring the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights of repatriation, self-determination, and independence, as stipulated by previous UN resolutions, particularly Resolution 3236 [as published. In return, this draft resolution calls for adopting the Gaza-Jericho accord as a substitute to those rights. This year, Washington has also been trying to hinder voting on Resolution 194, which provides for the Palestinian refugees' right of return.

The U.S. stance toward the Palestinian people's national rights would not have been so harsh had it not been for the grave concessions made by the PLO leadership in

Tunis. The leadership, by agreeing to transfer the refugee problem to the multilateral talks, emptied it of content, and considered it a mere humanitarian problem. These developments led to the signing of the Oslo-Washington agreement with its inherent concessions on the Palestinian people's national rights and the resolutions of PLO institutions.

The DFLP and PFLP unified command condemns efforts to circumvent the resolutions of international legitimacy relating to our people's national rights and the attempts to annul those rights. It calls on the international community not to be deceived by the U.S. Administration, which is seeking to abolish the UN's point of reference on the Palestinian problem. The unified command also calls on the Arab parties to draw the lessons and avoid falling in the trap of so-called U.S. moderation. Moreover, the unified command warns the leadership in Tunis of the danger of providing a fake Palestinian cover for U.S. policy, which is hostile to our people's rights. The unified command calls for closing ranks to confront attempts aimed at liquidating our people's national rights and to escalate the intifadah in order to reinforce our inalienable rights and foil the Oslo-Washington agreement.

### **OPEC Affairs**

#### **OAPEC Ministerial Council Concludes Session**

##### **Kuwait Oil Minister on Resolutions**

*JN0812185193 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Damascus, 8 Dec (SANA)—Kuwaiti Oil Minister 'Ali al-Baghli has asserted that the discussions the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries [OAPEC] held during its session in Damascus were serious and that resolutions in favor of joint Arab action were reached.

In a statement today to a Syrian News Agency, SANA, correspondent, he said that OAPEC is not authorized to study oil prices and shares. These are the specialty of OPEC, which includes Arab and foreign countries. All OAPEC members are Arab.

##### **Chairman Issues Press Statement**

*JN0812171893 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] The ministerial council of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries [OAPEC] ended its work in Damascus at noon today. In a press statement at the end of the council's work, 'Ali Ahmad al-Baghli, Kuwaiti oil minister and chairman of the current OAPEC session, said price fluctuations are a major obstacle keeping members from developing accurate plans and implementing their development projects.

Al-Baghli appealed to members to reinforce coordination and cooperation among themselves in order to restore balance and stability in the oil market and to achieve their joint interests.

OAPEC Secretary General 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-'Abdallah al-Turki explained that the council acquainted itself with the memorandum of the General Secretariat regarding its return to its permanent headquarters in the State of Kuwait at the end of April 1994. The council endorsed

the 1994 draft budget of the OAPEC General Secretariat, as well as the budget of the OAPEC judiciary body. Al-Turki said the council agreed that Syria would chair the upcoming session.

The OAPEC secretary general expressed the council's great appreciation to the Syrian leader, government, and people for their warm reception and for making the meeting successful. The OAPEC ministerial council held its 51st session in Damascus this morning.

## Algeria

### Policemen, 'Guerrillas' Die; Arrests in Russians' Death

NC0912163793 Paris AFP in English 1528 GMT 9 Dec 93

[By Hassen Zenati]

[Text] Algiers, Dec 9 (AFP)—Islamic militants shot and killed 18 Algerians, including eight policemen, in two separate attacks, while security forces killed 11 guerrillas, officials and the press said Thursday.

An official statement said that security forces had also arrested 11 "terrorists" directly involved in the murder of two Russian military officers in October.

The slain policemen were returning from a night patrol early Wednesday in the town of Sidi Moussa, about 20 kilometers (12 miles) southeast of here.

When they tried to restore order among shoppers getting out of hand as they waited to buy grain, a group of about 10 armed men waiting in the line suddenly opened fire on the police and then seized their weapons and fled.

One of the dead officers was a police chief, and a eighth policeman died of his wounds after the attack. Two of the civilians were also fatally injured by the gunmen.

Shortages of grain, the staple of the working class, have hit the area in recent months, often touching off fights.

In another incident, gunmen burst into a private home in Chlef, 200 kilometres (120 miles) west of here, and fired on a group gathered for lunch, killing eight people and wounding two, security officials said in a statement.

The home belonged to Arbia Zourgui, a nurse, and the dead included the director of the local hospital. The motive for Wednesday's slaughter was not known but Moslem extremists were suspected, the statement said.

Security forces meanwhile killed 11 fundamentalists and seized 17 firearms in three separate attacks on Wednesday, officials said.

The latest incidents came amid heightened tension over a series of attacks on foreigners by extremists, who have killed 11 expatriates since September in a bid to put further pressure on Algeria's already crippled economy.

The fundamentalists accused of killing the Russians were detained on Sunday and include a trader identified as Mohamed Maghroui, suspected of masterminding the attack.

Lieutenant-Colonels Vladimir Valedzhniy and Aleksandr Orlov, seconded to a flight training school at Laghouat, 400 kilometres (250 miles) south of Algiers, were gunned down on October 16. A third Russian was wounded.

On Sunday, a Russian woman married to an Algerian, Larissa Ayadi, was murdered in a market near Algiers.

The Algerian ambassador was summoned to the foreign ministry in Moscow on Thursday to be told that Russia "insists that Algeria takes urgent measures" to protect Russians, according to Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karassin.

Russia has decided to evacuate the families of its embassy and trade centre staff in Algeria, Karassin added. The wives and children of employees at the Russian consulate in Annaba, eastern Algeria, will also be repatriated and schools for Russian children will be "temporarily closed."

On Tuesday, suspected fundamentalists shot dead a British computer technician, the fourth foreigner to die after a Frenchman, the Russian woman and a Spanish man since the clandestine Armed Islamic Group (GIA) warned expatriates to go home by midnight November 30 or face sudden death.

The extremists, who want to found an Islamic state, began a guerrilla war after the army intervened in January 1992 to cancel the second round of a general election the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was set to win.

The FIS was banned after the cancelled poll and most of its leaders are now serving jail sentences.

Algerian intellectuals, such as judges, academics and doctors, have also been prime targets of the guerrilla bands. Hundreds of people have been killed in the past two years.

Security forces have responded to the killings by carrying out raids in fundamentalist strongholds of Algiers and other large towns, backed by helicopter and making many arrests.

### 'December Massacre' Termed 'Disgrace'

LD0912214093 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Excerpt] In one weekend, 20 Algerians were killed. This December massacre will be remembered by the Algerian youth as a disgrace because Algerian blood was shed by Algerians.

Those who were killed yesterday and in the past 48 hours, whether of Algerian or foreign nationality, will not take part in the commemoration of World Human Rights Day because they have been deprived of their basic right to life, while others continue to carry guns and roam the streets for an encounter with death. Deaths are occurring at very short intervals, and collective massacres are perpetrated, and all we know about them is where and when they take place and the names of the many victims.

Eight policemen were assassinated in Sidi-Moussa; eight civilians were also assassinated in Oued-Fodda, in Chlef Province; in Saoula, a senior official at the Foreign

Ministry was also assassinated; at Bethioua, near Oran, a British national was assassinated; in Larbaa, a French national was also assassinated. [passage omitted]

### **Religious Affairs Inspector Killed**

*LD0912211293 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Death is still taking place in Algeria. The Constantine province religious affairs inspector, Mr. Abdelkader Chiad, was assassinated yesterday after evening prayers in the town of El Khroub. The security services said that 11 terrorists had been liquidated, and 12 others were arrested between 6 and 7 December.

### **Al-Nahdah Leader Views Political Dialogue, Government**

*LD0912152793 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1105 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Interview with al-Nahdah leader Abdallah Djaballah by unidentified correspondent in Algiers; from the "Transformations" program—live]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] Good morning and welcome once more to the "Transformations" program. This program is a continuation of the series of political dialogue on the events that are taking place in the national arena.

Today's program in this series welcomes as its guest Abdallah Djaballah, the leader of the Islamic al-Nahdah Movement. The political dialogue is still drawing the attention of observers and those following expected developments in the coming days. [passage omitted]

Abdallah Djaballah, we welcome you for taking part in the "Transformations" program. We begin this discussion or dialogue from the point of what is taking place today while we are approaching the end of the year. After a series of meetings with the national dialogue commission and the emergence of reservations of some parties suspended their participation in the national dialogue, what is your view on the general trend of the dialogue, its progress and the method adopted by the national dialogue commission?

[Djaballah] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Thanks be to God and peace and blessing be upon the messenger of God. Very briefly, we say that the national dialogue which at first was organized by the Higher State Council [HCE] and now is run by a commission set up by the HCE. In our opinion, a great deal of ambiguity surrounds the dialogue. It is because until now the commission confined itself to underlining a number of issues, the most important of which is: It stressed its neutrality. That is, it is a neutral commission. It also stressed that it has not proceeded from any preconceptions at all and that it genuinely wants this dialogue to succeed.

However, what are its views on the national dialogue, I mean what are its views on the aims of the national dialogue; for example what is its view on the nature of the interim stage, the organizational formulas which govern the interim stage, what form should the institutions take, what is its view generally on the conditions for the success of the institutions in realizing the aims for which the national dialogue is being arranged today, plus other issues on which until now the commission has not made its view known.

As far as we are concerned as a party to the dialogue we believe that the dialogue, as a matter of principle, is basic demand. We have engaged in it not in order to approve an existing authority or existing regime; our stand on this is clear. We have repeatedly said that among the causes of the current crisis in the country was the corruption of the political system and the weakness of the men who run it. We have also repeatedly said that the authority in our country stands accused continuously. It is its duty to prove the innocence of its task. [passage omitted]

In our opinion, the ambiguity which threatens the national dialogue lies in the fact that as the FFS [Socialist Forces Front] and the MDA [Movement for Democracy in Algeria] withdrew and the FLN [National Liberation Front] raising an issue which I personally understood that it does not intend to take part in the interim institutions. [sentence as heard] The truth is that it seems to us that the dialogue was moving to a dead-end. Therefore, we said that there must be an alternative. We put forward two alternatives; in the first we said that the HCE which is today a constitutional institution functioning in same way as it has been functioning in 1992. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Are these conditions put on the basis of the dialogue commission trying to find solutions to them or is it that these conditions can be raised or discussed at a national conference about which a great deal has been said?

[Djaballah] Actually, in our opinion, the ideal solution which we have proposed in various memoranda has been the convening of the national conference. [passage omitted] However, in our view, the convening of a national conference is not meant to be people meeting to debate something and then going home. If each side is still sticking to its own position, including what I look on as basic positions, and if they continue to refuse to take part in the interim institutions, in our view in this case, the dialogue is going toward a dead-end. The essential subject of the national dialogue is this: to define the institutions which would govern the interim period and who would be taking part in these institutions. Who, for example, will be members of the provisional council and who will be members of the presidential institution and how is the provisional council going to be formed and how is the presidential institution going to be formed and who is going to be a member of the government and how is this government going to be formed and so on and so forth?

If those parties refuse to take part, we in the al-Nahdah Movement have raised some reservations on the question of taking part. From the beginning, we have been a victim of the system—from 1962 until now. During all this period we have been exposed to numerous harassments, imprisonment, detention, interrogation, torture, and other things. These things are known.

[Correspondent] But when the FFS and the MDA suspended or withdrew from the dialogue, the al-Nahdah Movement remained in the dialogue.

[Djaballah] Pardon me. We were victims of those actions. We are not going to approve any institution or any authority or any system. We have not gone to the dialogue in order to approve an authority or a system as I said in the beginning. The side which adopted the idea of not taking part in the interim institutions is in the first place the opposition and not in particular the Islamic al-Nahdah Movement. If these parties are not going to take part then an alternative must be found because the period of the current institutions expires at the end of this month. The country will be living through an institutional vacuum. How is this vacuum going to be filled? If the national dialogue is meant to be a means for filling this vacuum, for example, and if the national dialogue is not going to take place in the required manner then then one must start to think about alternatives. [passage omitted]

So that we may not be historically responsible for the failure of the dialogue we remained in the dialogue. We are in favor of the dialogue, but not in favor of the dialogue which approves one system or one regime or particular men. We are in favor of the dialogue which can solve the various problems of Algeria. We have put forward a clear view on them.

[Correspondent] Concerning the alternative: You said the alternative is there. Does the alternative mean, in your view, that the government offers concessions to the opposition or to the parties which made their participation dependent on a number of conditions?

[Djaballah] In our view, very briefly, this dialogue must achieve a fundamental objective. What is this fundamental objective? First, it is the realization of national reconciliation or national accord. Second, it is to put Algeria on the right path toward the return of security, stability, and legitimacy. Third, it is to organize the return to the electoral path, and fourth, to bring safety to the hearts of the people in general. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Please allow me, shaykh, to return to the question about the issue of the dialogue between the opposition and the authority. The opposition today includes several parties. The al-Nahdah Movement put forward its proposals, i.e. the things or the ideas you proposed to us today. But, on the other hand, there are other parties which have other ideas which go in the direction of a national reconciliation but with certain conditions. Do you think that the present problem, namely the political problem, has been raised so that the

authority must make concessions to the opposition or is it the opposition, which must proceed along the path of the dialogue, which has to make concessions to the authority?

[Djaballah] This definition of the existing authority requires also some defining. Our view on this question is that if there were no concessions from all the sides there would be no results. Therefore, among the conditions we had put forward as ethical conditions, there are ethical conditions and objective conditions.

There are three ethical questions. It is good to listen to one another; to put the national interest above the party and individual interest; and being nondogmatic if right rests with the other side. The interlocutor is interested in finding the goal. Who finds this goal is immaterial. Within this framework there should be a form of a concession. If this dialogue discussed the organizational and technical issues only its aim would not be the solving of the crisis of the Algerian state but its aim would be to solve the problem of the institutional vacuum which the country will be seeing at the end of the year. We have put forward a way to decide on the organizational and technical issues. We said that to decide on the organizational and technical issues is through voting. If someone proposed that the interim council be formed out of 200, 150, or 300, this issue for example, can be decided through voting. The issues which have conceptual extent, which are connected with the main political options, issues of this kind should be decided either by persuasion or by popular referendum and enabling each side to put forward its view to the public by way of the various media facilities.

The concession would be on the organizational questions and the technical questions. We told them this. They said: We cannot at the moment discuss issues of a conceptual nature in view of the fact that they are difficult and also the lack of time. We told them: We have no problem. Let us then discuss the institutional issues of purely an organizational nature, and confine ourselves to working on the basis of 23 February 1989 despite all its holes, contradictions, and the absence of an equilibrium among the authorities and despite the weakness in it. We accept it as the document which regulates the functions of the institutions and the work of everyone during the transitional period until the emergence of elected institutions.

[Correspondent] Since we are nearly at the end of the current year, do you in the al-Nahdah Movement believe that there is sufficient time for the Dialogue Commission to organize a national conference before the end of the current year, or do you suggest that the existing institutions, including the HCE, should continue in power on the basis that the conference will be held at a later period next year?

[Djaballah] These matters are related to how genuine intentions are. If there is both a genuine desire and strong resolve among the parties to the dialogue to make

the dialogue succeed, although there is little time left, it is still sufficient. It is still sufficient because the dialogue has gone a long way so far. What remains is for the National Dialogue Commission to put forward a preparatory project to be placed before the parties involved to discuss both its form and content. After that the date of the national conference will have to be set.

In my opinion, the national conference is not a conference for debates but a conference for endorsement. There is a second matter which needs to be dealt with and this concerns measures to restore order. Why do people today not agree to the dialogue? Why are they not satisfied with the dialogue? Why are they not pinning their greatest hopes on the dialogue? Because, for example, they see in reality many excesses which made their confidence in the intentions of the authorities in particular less than complete; in fact their confidence was shaken.

That is why we have proposed a list of measures which urgently need to be implemented because they will guarantee that people are reassured. For example, one of these measures is...

[Correspondent, interrupting] Now the serious security and political situation is very serious. [passage omitted]

[Djaballah] There are specific proposals which the al-Nahdah Movement has made, such as halting the operation of executive decree No. 93-54. The ostensible purpose of this executive decree is to guarantee the neutrality of the administration. But in practice there are loopholes. There are people in our administration today in Algeria who are aligned with their own political and party allegiances; they have exploited this decree for ulterior motives to settle scores with people of different political persuasions. [passage omitted]

There is the decree related to the state of emergency, the legislative decree related to the special courts, the issue of FIS [Islamic Salvation Front] being a party to the national dialogue. This is one of the most fundamental issues. There is the issue of releasing political prisoners, the issue of respecting public opinion in general and refraining from making a mockery of it in the media, especially the television. [passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Abdallah Djaballah, we return to the question which has been emphatically raised by a number of parties, particularly the parties which defend national reconciliation and national accord. An issue which was raised several times: namely, the wise men of the dissolved FIS. In some statements you said that you are ready to mediate in this direction between the authority and the dissolved FIS. Today after the developments that have taken place, particularly the recent HCE statement which talked about broadening the dialogue to this current or force on the basis of it taking part as independent political personalities, who in your opinion... [pauses], are there wise men in the dissolved FIS which you know so well?

[Djaballah] Permit me. First, I have some reservations about using this name, the FIS wise men; I have reservations about the description wise men. We should say: The people whom we see in the FIS, whether founding members or just members of the Shura [consultative] Council, or members of the executive committees and councils, or who were elected are those who have been taking part in the armed action. Perhaps describing them as such may be more appropriate or more gentle.

Truly, we were, if not the first, among the first. We were the first to raise the idea of holding a dialogue with the FIS. We put this idea forward during the days of the strike of June, late May and early June, June of 1991. At that time we put forward this matter and we made a number of contacts with the government and with the presidency at the time to solve the crisis which was then in existence. We put forward some solutions. The solutions we proposed had been put into practice. They admitted this anyway. They were presented to the FIS at that time and they accepted them. But when the arrests of Shaykh Abbasi and Shaykh Ali Belhadj took place, I contacted within an hour or even less after their arrest the presidency, the secretary general of the presidency at that time Arbi Belkheir, and also I contacted Prime Minister Ghazali. I denounced this action and asked him to hold a dialogue. I warned and drew attention to the perils of this action. Ever since that time whenever an opportunity has arisen I have persisted in raising the question of having a dialogue with them. I am in favor of the idea of holding a dialogue with the FIS.

[Correspondent] Have you raised this with the authority or the FIS leadership?

[Djaballah] No, with the authorities. I am in favor of the idea of opening a door of dialogue with the former FIS leadership.

[Correspondent] Do you mean the shaykhs who are in prison?

[Djaballah] Yes, with the shaykhs of the FIS. I believe that it is more proper to have a dialogue with these people because they have a right. [passage indistinct] I have no objection to having a dialogue with others. I have no objection whatsoever. Indeed it would be a positive step which I may encourage. However, I encourage in the first place the step which I see as useful. The step which I see as useful is the step of dialogue with the shaykhs of the FIS.

What remains is the point you just raised, namely the law. We know that laws are a means to serve the public interest. Lawmakers define the law by saying that it is an expression of the legislator which remains binding for the sake of attaining the public benefit. Therefore, laws are to serve the public interest and if the public interest today lies in holding dialogue with these people, these men, I see that there is no objection whatever to having a dialogue with them.

This solution is not a legal solution. It is a political solution. This is on the one hand. On the other hand, what is commonly known is that the above constitutional provision is given by the higher court. We know that constitutional provisions sometimes in our country and many other countries, when they contradict the public interest, are amended. Ways of amending laws are known. Therefore, it is our opinion that dialogue should be held with these people because holding a dialogue with them is among the most important things that help a return of tranquillity to the hearts and among the things that would help the success of the various steps of dialogue.

[Correspondent] Well, on the other hand, the problem now is that of representation and the developments which have been taking place over two years and what is happening at the security level. Do you think that representatives of the dissolved FIS are somewhere in a certain place? The immediate questions is: Are there any personalities who were active at the time when the FIS was founded and who now represent this tendency?

[Djaballah] Look, the authority is the one which should answer these questions because it is the one in power, the one which decides. I know of some people and some files. What we present is a political opinion, a general idea and we say: The dialogue should be carried out with the legitimate former leaderships of the FIS. How can this be done? The subject of methods is a different subject which can be discussed and has many options. The question is: Do these leaders accept the dialogue or not? Again, this subject does not concern me, it concerns these leaders.

However, I see that when contacts are established in order to have a dialogue, alongside certain measures that are taken to show good intentions, then, I believe, we will get results. People would have the right answers and not mere guesses. This is what we say and this is what we present. I do not like to interfere in the internal affairs of any side. You remember the parties' seminar with the authority when then Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ghazali wanted to compel some persons to talk in the seminar and at that time the party was still in existence, I objected.

[Correspondent] They participated as independent persons.

[Djaballah] Yes. I objected and considered it an interference in the internal affairs of a party and a serious precedence on the national level. At that time the party was still in existence, not dissolved. Now we see the leaderships of this Islamic faction, which exists in the national arena as a tendency, whether we like it or not. Legal measures do not wipe out conventions from people's thinking. Legal measures abrogate the legal right of movement and public existence. When people's right of public existence is abrogated, it does not mean that this will succeed in finishing off their convictions or their orientations or their existence as a tendency in the society. In reality they are still there as a tendency inside

the society, therefore...[pauses] If I were in power—God protect me from the word I—I would have directly approached those who could really be of use and those who could really shoulder full responsibilities and take the required and appropriate stands. This is, in general, our opinion.

[Correspondent] Let us return to the question which makes the headlines: the issue of violence, or terrorism. As far as the al-Nahdah Movement is concerned, what is taking place at this level—particularly the latest developments such as the assassinations of foreigners—does the al-Nahdah Movement consider that this escalation at the security level does not even serve the dialogue question?

[Djaballah] In fact, when discord is present in any society, it does not comply with any rules or calculations and its consequences are varied, complex, and unpredictable. For this reason, the true religion warns us against discord and obligates us to avoid it constantly and then guides us to solutions which we should adopt if such discord occurs. I think that the violence which is now present in the national arena should not just be dealt with as an existing phenomenon and therefore through security measures, that is, armed force or through the security option. In our view, the security option is not an effective or useful solution. Violence should therefore be dealt with by dealing with the various problems which brought the country to such a critical situation and which brought about such discord in the country, violence which constitutes a real danger to the safety and freedom of political, social, and economic life and so on.

The solution to such crises or this complex problem in our view—and we put forward a list of rules—must be within the framework of a safeguard of society's principles. The question is: Is the confrontation and the battle today with Islam or is it a battle against certain practices? There are, for instance, abuses at the national level and many of our youths and men had their beards burned, several of them were arrested, and some of them are still under arrest despite the fact that I have been constantly approaching the authorities for about two years.

As far as reassuring the people is concerned, this solution should be within the framework of safeguarding reassurance or of making citizens regain their confidence. Today, we are aware of the seriousness of the matter, but what has the citizen who is peacefully in his home or driving his car in the street done to be subject to provocations which harm his dignity and his personality?

When I discussed these abuses with the authorities, they said: We have not made decisions on this and we have not given instructions for this purpose. On the contrary, there are directives which stress the respect of citizens' rights and keeping oneself far removed from any abuses. There are thus local stands from officials here and there. I told them that what is required is that the central

authority should constantly follow up these abuses and punish whoever commits them.

The conclusion is that the way to deal with this phenomenon should be reconsidered and we put forward several suggestions.

[Correspondent] Mr. Djaballah, before we discuss suggestions [on how to deal with terrorism], do you think—as you have already said, that the causes of violence or terrorism, which have existed since the electoral process was stopped in 1991—do you think that the same causes still exist despite the developments which have taken place on the political and even the social level?

[Djaballah] Some of the reasons still exist. For example, the various statements by the secular tendency, the nonreligious, the alienated—it has many names but one meaning. They call for the exclusion of the Islamic tendency and for a boycott of the constant principles of Algerian society. I believe that these statements feed the phenomenon of violence or terrorism. For instance, some of the causes of violence are playing on the nation's feelings through various media channels, disrespect for the cultural inheritance and customs and traditions, particularly television. These methods should be reconsidered and such phenomenon should be dealt with.

There is also, a kind of visible despotism in the form of various encroachments here and there. For instance, we are a movement, a party which is approved and effective in the national arena, as well as a partner in the national dialogue. But, as I mentioned before, some of our people are in detention centers and others who have been fired from their jobs. In my opinion, even on the level of political activity, until not so long ago—just a few weeks ago—some local authorities in some provinces were prohibiting political activity despite the necessary conditions existing, available. They are still forbidding it.

This behavior by the local authorities is individual [fardi] but this individual behavior by the local authorities feeds the general rebellious phenomenon against authority because the simple citizen does not differentiate between this or that person's behavior. When he sees that political, economic, and various social injustices are committed against him, he reacts to them. His reaction is not subject to any control or any limit. Because of that, I said that getting rid of such matters would help treat the phenomenon of violence on the national scale. For example, one of our principles...

[Correspondent, interrupting] Despite the rejection by the other party, or specifically, by the armed groups which refuse any efforts in that direction. [sentence as heard]

[Djaballah] I believe that using such procedures...[pauses] First, the behavior of the state is not like that of individuals. The state is required always to submit its behavior to the law in the public interest. It also has traditions which should govern its positions and its

behavior. But if a state behaves in the way that an ordinary citizen would, that would clearly be a major catastrophe.

My remarks are not directed at any quarter with which we have no contact or over which we have no guardianship. My remarks are directed at a known quarter; it is an established state and an authority which has responsibilities. We warn against certain procedures which, regardless of the position of the other party, must be taken. The state is not strengthened by the use of force but by the use of justice and truth. Its slogan should be truth over force and justice over self-interest.

[Correspondent] Well, we are approaching the end of our time. We return now to a fundamental and important matter, namely the question of organizing the transitional period. The question is how does HAMAS [Islamic Resistance Movement] see the role of the military during this period, or what will happen after the end of this year?

[Djaballah] The military institution has great responsibilities, strategic responsibilities. [passage omitted]

This institution should be impartial and its strength is in its impartiality. It should not interfere in matters concerning major political options. Therefore, we have advocated the impartiality of this institution and consequently its supervision and guarantee of the implementation of the agreed resolutions at the national conference.

One could ask: If this institution is basically part of the authority and under the control of a government, how can it be impartial? We say it would be impartial because the outcome of the national conference would be a general constitutional matter and the task of the future government would be the implementation and affirming of the outcome of the national conference. If that government deviates from the agreed outcome at the national conference, then the military would withhold its obedience and force the government to respect and implement the outcome of the national conference.

[Correspondent] Let us return to another point, that of the political institutions which are present now or those which managed affairs in the period after the departure of the former president. With regard to this institution, that is, the HCE and the other institutions, do you consider that the HCE must go or can it continue until the organization of the national conference? This is what some political parties are proposing in the national press.

[Djaballah] Morally and legally, these institutions—the HCE and the Consultative Council—should go at the end of December 1993 because they were set up in accordance with a decree issued on 14 December by the Higher Security Council following the resignation of [former President] Chadli Bendjedid on 11 December. Therefore, morally and legally, it must go. In practice, it

should be in January, if the National Dialogue Commission does not succeed in organizing the national conference before the end of the year. Naturally there is no alternative. It is impossible to leave the country without an institution of authority.

Then, there is a constitutional way out which allows for the institutions of the presidency to continue in very exceptional cases. Such an eventuality is perhaps special and therefore they would continue for a given period.

[Correspondent] This does not contravene the promises, in my opinion. You, as an organization...

[Djaballah, interrupting] No, I have said [words indistinct] ethically and legally, he is supposed to go. It is supposed now that the people should make an effort to organize the national seminar during the remaining period. If this proves to be impossible for objective reasons, we will then be facing two alternatives: either this establishment will go and the authority would [words indistinct] and this is impossible, or there will be resort to this constitutional outlet. The latter would then be of less damage. We at any rate [words indistinct] if there are true intentions.

[Correspondent] The period is sufficient. Let us go back to another point—the issue of organizing the elections. Do you believe that it is possible to organize or prepare for legislative or presidential elections in the next few months? Or do you defend the idea of organizing the elections later?

[Djaballah] The suggestions we have made include our demand for the organization of legislative and presidential elections during 1994, as a good choice. As a best choice, there should be legislative elections during 1994 leading to a national assembly—legal and elected—which leads to an elected government. [passage omitted]

The participation of 50-60 percent of the Algerian people in elections leading to constitutional institutions will perhaps benefit the country more than the continuation of the temporary measures. This is because experience has proved that temporary measures never solve problems. In fact, problems become more complicated if an attempt is made to solve them with temporary measures.

[Correspondent] Let me ask the final question, because we have one minute left. Final question: Mr. Djaballah, are there any contacts with or coordination between the Islamic al-Nahdah Movement and the parties which are drawing closer to your own political line, such as the FLN, the FFS, or [word indistinct]?

[Djaballah] In fact, there is no coordination (?in the broad) sense of the word. Meetings have been held with some parties such as the FLN and HAMAS for example, to exchange views regarding the various issues under discussion.

### Party Leader Addresses Movement for Republic Rally

LD0912225993 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] The Movement for the Republic today held its first rally at Mohamed Boudiaf cultural complex in the city of Annaba. The rally was chaired by Said Sadi [leader of the Rally for Culture and Democracy].

[Begin Sadi recording] We see that none of the parties, regardless of their programs, has found the necessary solution to overcome the crises the country is experiencing. In fact, today we find ourselves in a similar political situation to that which existed in the country in 1954. Reactionary forces within the country have established links with outside forces and are trying to bring down the Algerian state. This concerns all Algerians, and not just party activists. When democracy is threatened all the citizens are concerned.

Today we must protect Algeria, and all Algeria's children must rise. On 25 November, we met in Algiers, and the majority of us did not know one another. There were among us party activists, but the majority did not belong to any party. We would like to see our movement as a movement for the citizens before being a movement for activists.

We do not have a party program. We have general objectives aimed at bringing the country out of this misfortune which has befallen us. Everybody needs a republican framework and everybody needs to return to the November [1954] values. The family, the citizen, the party activist, the political party, and the institution of the state, and the state of law naturally, they all need the republic. Therefore they must all stand united today to oppose those who want to set the country on fire.

### Group Calls Leader's Kidnapping 'Cowardly Act'

LD0912223693 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] The Reform and Guidance Society is, as usual, commemorating the 11 December 1960 [demonstrations], while 20 [as heard] days have passed since Mr. Mohammed Bouslimani, the society's president, was kidnapped. Several questions were asked on this day. Over to Nacera Ait-Salah:

[Ait-Salah] Why was Mohammed Bouslimani kidnapped? The Reform and Guidance Society says that this kidnapping is an attempt at hampering the work of the society because its social and educational program annoys some people. The society describes Bouslimani's kidnapping as a cowardly act, and it asks the following question: Are the base conspirators so annoyed that they feel they have to come between the homeland and its children and widen the gaps between Algerians at a time when the latter need to get together?

The Reform and Guidance Society remains, despite all this, optimistic. Bouslimani was kidnapped on 26 November from his home in Blida by four gunmen. On the fifth day of the kidnapping, the Reform and Guidance Society received a telephone call from Bouslimani. On the seventh day the Organization of Free Algerian Youth [Munadhamat al-Shababi al-Jazairi al-Hur] and the Armed Islamic Group claimed responsibility for the kidnapping. So far, no additional information has emerged.

### Egypt

#### U.S. Defense Official Briefs Mubarak on Gulf Tour

NC0912122293 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1125 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Cairo, 9 Dec (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak today conferred with Frank Wisner, U.S. under secretary of defense for policy, who arrived here earlier today from Muscat.

Speaking after the meeting, Wisner said that he briefed President Mubarak on a number of topics, including the results of the talks he held during his tour of the Gulf states, as part of the effective and constant coordination between the two countries. He stressed that this coordination is vital to the peace process in the entire region, starting with Somalia and going as far as the Gulf region. Wisner described his talks with President Mubarak as "fruitful and useful." The meeting was attended by Robert Pelletreau, U.S. ambassador to Cairo.

#### Gunmen Open Fire Outside Movie Theater; Policeman Dies

NC1012064893 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0600 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Text] Cairo, 10 Dec (MENA)—A responsible security source in the Interior Ministry has stated that at 2305 yesterday unknown assailants opened fire at the entrance of the Majidah movie theater in the Cairo suburb of Hulwan while moviegoers were preparing to leave the cinema. As a result, six persons were wounded and taken to the Hulwan General Hospital to receive treatment. The wounded are: 'Abd-al-Nasir Ibrahim 'Ali, Abu-al-Naja Ahmad Muhammad, Sha'ban Kamal Abu-al-'Ila, Khalid Mahmud 'Ali, Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Raziq 'Ali, and Ashraf 'Ali Isma'il.

The security source said that the attackers fled in two cars: A red Fiat-132 and a dark blue Peugeot-505. According to eyewitnesses, the assailants headed for the autostrada road.

The Cairo Security Directorate and the investigative departments have alerted patrol cars in an urgent attempt to pursue the two cars. The description of the two cars was given to officers at major traffic checkpoints in Cairo and al-Jizah. Senior officials from the

Cairo Security Directorate, criminal investigation departments, and criminal laboratory have examined the scene of the incident, and the Prosecutor's Office has been notified to start an investigation.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 0612 GMT on 10 December adds in a Cairo-atelined report: "Sources at the al-Nasr Health Insurance Hospital in Hulwan, southern Cairo, have stated that police conscript Hasan 'Izzat Tawfiq from the Cairo Security Forces died of wounds he sustained during the shooting at the Majidah and al-Marwah movie theaters in Hulwan yesterday. He was wounded by a bullet in his neck and some shrapnel and later developed severe hemorrhaging. The doctors who attempted to save his life failed."]

#### Policeman Killed by 'Fundamentalists' in Asyut

NC0912215393 Paris AFP in English 2131 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Cairo, Dec 9 (AFP)—An Egyptian policeman was shot dead Thursday [9 December] by gunmen thought to be Islamic militants in the province of Asyut in Upper Egypt, police sources reported.

They said the policeman, 'Awaja Makhluq Muhammad, was killed when three fundamentalists opened fire at a police station he was guarding in the area of al-Qusiyah and then escaped. Another policeman, also on a guarding shift, was injured in the attack.

Three days ago, Moslem extremists killed a police sergeant was shot dead by Islamic fundamentalists. [sentence as received]

The death brings to 79 the number of policemen killed in a terror campaign launched one year ago by the fundamentalists, mainly against government officials, policemen and tourists.

More than half of the victims have been killed in the fundamentalist stronghold of Asyut in southern Egypt.

Also on Thursday, a Cairo court sentenced four Islamic militants, convicted of killing one of their comrades, to 15 years of hard labour.

The four men had decided to "execute" Wa'il Safwat after accusing him of being corrupt for failing to pay back a debt. After hanging him, they held a prayer and then put the corpse in a garbage bag and left it in a cemetery, the presiding judge said.

The year-long confrontation between the fundamentalists and the government forces has claimed the lives of 77 militants, 36 Coptic Christians, seven western tourists and 40 other people caught up in the fire.

On Wednesday, Egyptian police dismantled a 15-member Islamic terror group which had plans to assassinate interior ministry officials and civilian personalities.

**New Group of 'Terrorists' Uncovered***NC1012105193 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 7 Dec 93 p 8*

[Report by Najwa 'Abd-al-'Aziz]

[Excerpt] Security sources have disclosed that a new organization, led by two returnees from Afghanistan and Pakistan and some fugitives from the Imbaba incidents, has been uncovered and its members arrested. AL-WAFD has received important information in this regard, which the Interior Ministry will announce within the next few hours. The sources affirmed that the organization members call themselves The Assassination Group [majmu'at al-ightiyalat]. They put at the top of their assassination list the speaker of the People's Assembly, the education minister, and some artists.

The uncovering of this organization began when one of the terrorists—Faraj Muhammad Faraj, 26, a carpenter by profession—fired at state security investigator 'Abd-al-Karim Muhammad in the Ard Nubar area in Shubra al-Khaymah last Sunday. He was able to fire one bullet before his gun jammed. Three of the terrorist's assistants were deployed nearby to cover him. The investigator chased the terrorist, who tried to hit him on the head with the butt of his pistol, but the residents were able to capture him after attacking him with bricks and stones. The other three terrorists, including the group's leader [amir] 'Abd-al-Hamid Muhammad, escaped on a motorcycle. The terrorist was taken to Nasir General Hospital. A list of some senior figures targeted for assassination, 60 bullets, and a 9-mm pistol were seized. [passage omitted]

**Prosecutors Seize 'Arsenal' at Suspects' 'Hideouts'***NC1012080293 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 7 Dec 93 p 1*

[Report by Najwa 'Abd-al-'Aziz]

[Text] The Higher State Security Prosecutor's Office carried out an on-site inspection and took photographs of two hideouts belonging to the suspects in the attempted assassination of Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi. The inspection, carried out in the presence of two terrorist suspects, uncovered an arsenal. The Prosecutor's Office also decided to seize numerous post office boxes in three of the country's governorates through which the suspects received thousands of coded messages.

Counselor 'Abd-al-Sami' Sharaf-al-Din, public attorney for the Higher State Security Prosecutor's Office, left for the site to carry out the inspection in the company of senior prosecutors Hisham Badawi, 'Abd-al-Mun'im Halawani, Hani Burham, Usamah Qandil, 'Ali al-Hawari, and Sharif 'Abd-al-Nabi. They took with them the terrorists Amin Isma'il and Nur-al-Din Sulayman, who led them to their hideouts in the al-Kawm al-Akhdar and al-Badrashayn areas in al-Jizah.

Working amid tight security measures, the investigators found a dungeon at a depth of three meters below a room in the first terrorist's apartment in al-Kawm al-Akhdar.

It contained a large quantity of weapons and ammunition, coded documents, and papers pertaining to the terrorist organization's cell structure.

In the second hideout they found ammunition, a time bomb with a fuse, an explosive charge with a timer, a pistol, and sketches of some vital installations that the terrorists had been instructed to blow up.

Investigations are continuing under the supervision of Public Attorney Raja' al-'Arabi.

**Opposition Parties Respond to Call for Talks***NC1012093893 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 7 Dec 93 p 1*

["Text" of statement sent by opposition parties to President Husni Mubarak; date not given]

[Text] The undersigned leaders of the political parties and the representatives of the patriotic political forces have discussed among themselves the president's call for a dialogue, included in two of his speeches to the People's Assembly. They agree to accept this call in principle, requesting that sufficient guarantees be offered to keep such a dialogue earnest and effective so that it can eventually serve the homeland's and the citizens' interests and overcome the country's sweeping crises.

The conferees believe that such a dialogue—which should be a comprehensive political dialogue on the necessary national action at this stage to achieve a modicum of agreement on some important issues—must be conducted, at least during its first phase, among the parties and political forces through their leaders or accredited representatives. This does not preclude the right of "thinkers, creative individuals, intellectuals, private institutions, and official institutions that are concerned with planning, scientific research, social studies, and future-oriented studies" to conduct their own dialogues within their institutions and organizations. At the same time, any proposed conferences to discuss specific issues like social justice, the population problem, unemployment, and education must not precede the political dialogue among the political parties and forces because such a dialogue is the framework within which the success of any discussions or proposals regarding the above issues depends.

To guarantee the success of this dialogue, prior agreement must first be reached on an agenda. This can be done by a committee of representatives of all Egyptian political parties and forces without exception. Priority must be given to the issue of political reform, with special attention to amending the law governing the exercise of political rights. These amendments must include the provision of guarantees to hold free and honest elections and referendums. Likewise, the laws obstructing the implementation of a democratic society and democratic institutions, such as the Professional Associations Law, the Political Parties Law, and the

Press Law must be revised and basic rights must be provided, as outlined in international charters.

Such political reform can in itself cause terrorism, violence, and counterviolence to recede. Success in this respect will lead to dialogue on other issues, notably the various views about economic and social reform and the measures necessary to ease the burden of the low-income groups.

The signatories of this statement agree that to foster a healthy climate for such a political dialogue among the political parties and forces, it is necessary to:

- Give political parties and forces every opportunity to present their views and positions via the official media (radio and television);

- Lift existing restrictions on the political parties and forces and establish their right to hold mass political congresses and to submit their positions to the public with the sole requirement that they notify the concerned administrative authority.

These measures need no new legislations and are necessary for a dialogue to be held with a minimum degree of mutual trust.

The signatories of this statement propose to President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, in his capacity as president of the Republic and the initiator of the call for a dialogue, that he do the following:

- Choose his representatives who will meet with representatives of the political parties and forces to prepare a dossier for the dialogue that will include an agenda, the objectives of the dialogue, the level of representation, and the way it will be moderated.

- Following an agreement on the first point, call a meeting to be attended by the leaders of the political parties and representatives of the political forces to begin the dialogue.

We hope that this step on our part will effectively promote favorable circumstances to hold a fruitful national dialogue that will produce real political reform, which in turn will lead to a comprehensive national reform in all spheres.

May God guide us on a path of goodness and righteousness.

Signed: Fu'ad Siraj-al-Din, leader of the Wafd Party; Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Labor Party; Khalid Muhyi-al-Din, leader of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party; Mustafa Kamil Murad, leader of the Liberal Party; Jamal Rabi', leader of the Arab Egypt Party; 'Aliy-al-Din Salih, leader of the Misr al-Fatah Party; Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im Turk, leader of the Democratic Union Party; Kamal Kirah, leader of the Greens Party; Diya'-al-Din Dawud, leader of the Arab Nasirite Party; Muhammad Ma'mun al-Hudaybi, of the Muslim Brotherhood; Ibrahim al-Badrawi, of the Egyptian Communists.

### Musa Leaves for G-15 Meeting in New Delhi

NC0912123993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1205 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Cairo, 9 Dec (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa left Cairo for New Delhi this afternoon, leading Egypt's delegation to the meeting of the foreign ministers of Group-15, scheduled to be held on Saturday [11 December].

In a predeparture statement, Musa said that while in India he will deliver two messages from President Husni Mubarak to Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma and Prime Minister Narasimha Rao. He pointed out that in their meeting on Saturday the foreign ministers of G-15 countries will discuss the future activity of the group. Musa noted that his visit to India will provide a chance to exchange views with Indian officials on a number of problems related to the Third World and its economy and also on bilateral relations between Egypt and India and ways to consolidate them in all fields.

It should be recalled that the G-15 summit, initially scheduled for Monday in New Delhi, has been postponed.

### Sanctions Against Iraq Called 'Unjustified'

NC0912214393 Cairo AL-AHRAH in Arabic 30 Nov 93 p 8

["Close Up" column by Salamah Ahmad Salamah: "The United States Strangles Iraq"]

[Text] The investigations that followed the Gulf war showed, ironically enough, that the United States, Britain, and France were the main countries helping to arm Iraq. They supplied Saddam Husayn with the necessary funding and equipment to produce chemical and other weapons. Former U.S. President Bush and the Iron Lady Thatcher played a prominent role in this regard!

But the United States and Britain are today the main opponents of lifting the oil embargo or reducing the economic sanctions against Iraq, although it has complied with most UN resolutions and the UN teams have ascertained that Iraq is hiding no biological, chemical, or missile programs. The last such commitment was Iraq's announcement that it officially and unconditionally agrees to long-term monitoring of its armament programs in compliance with Security Council Resolution 715 and that it is ready to cooperate with the Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Over the past two years, control and inspection teams pursued Iraq when any sign or rumor emerged that it possesses chemical weapons or programs to produce banned weapons. The latest such rumor spread by Western media was that the Iraqi authorities used chemical gas to attack the Shiites in the marshlands. A UN team failed to find any signs supporting these allegations.

U.S. stubbornness toward Iraq is perhaps due in part to provocative acts, such as the dispatch of groups of Iraqis to the border with Kuwait to demonstrate against the border demarcation decision and Iraq's failure to solve the problem of Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti POW's. But continuing the sanctions against the Iraqi people in this arbitrary manner and failing to show flexibility—at least to reduce the burden on the Iraqi people who have been paying dearly in suffering, humiliation, and destitution—appear unjustified and incomprehensible, especially when the West appears ready to relax the embargo on Serbia to encourage it to concede things to which it has no right.

The policy of double standards flagrantly reappears. But while there is no Arab reconciliation and the Arab world remains remote from the Iraqi people, it won't be surprising if we soon discover that Israel and the United States are the only remaining door for Iraq to return [to the Arab world].

### Libya

#### Al-Qadhdhafi, Ghana's Rawlings Address Janzur Residents

**Al-Qadhdhafi Views 'Confrontation' With West**  
*LD1012001893 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1940 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Speech by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the inhabitants of the town of Janzur on 9 December—recorded]

[Excerpts] Brother sons of the militant Janzur region, this historic area witnessed the first Arab settlement well over 5,000 years ago and turned this soil into an Arab soil, generation after generation. Credit is due to this historic region for its great contribution in turning North Africa into Arab soil, the property of the Arab people, and the Arab nation, and turning the future of this nation against the will of the enemies who have been trying repeatedly but without any success to shake off Arabism from this place, destroy the Arab race in this place, and annex it to Rome. [passage omitted]

We tell them once again, brothers. They will have to revise their faulty calculations.

The calculations of the United States, Britain, and France and the entire aggressive Atlantic group and the aggressive Christian, Western, colonialist, and imperialist camp were on the basis of dealing with submissive rulers, with bribed rulers, with traitors and agents who owe their positions as rulers over their peoples to the forces of colonialism. [passage omitted]

But as of now and proceeding from Mogadishu, Somalia, and from Libya, from Janzur, from Tripoli, we say to them: The clash with the people has begun. It began with the masses—the confrontation with the people—the

confrontation today is with the masses who say no and who do not crawl and who do not betray. The masses do not know betrayal, surrender, or crawling, or take bribes. The ruler is the one who crawls and who takes bribes and is the one who is an agent.

As for the masses who are defending their forefathers' land and who are defending the land for their children and grandchildren, they do not accept bribes and never surrender. The masses are prepared to die and sacrifice their dearest children in defense of their existence and their future.

From here, from Janzur, and other places which witnessed the challenge of the popular masses—from here, brothers, the confrontation with the West starts. Here we say to them: You have to get ready to confront the masses, the angry masses, the defiant masses, the masses who are resolved to enter the battle. It is either martyrdom or victory. Victory will inevitably be for the masses.

Brothers, a nation cannot be killed. Libyans, we address you from immortal Janzur, this historic place. We say to you, sons of the Arab nation, we say to you that the stage of indifference and the period of setback and (?despair) which had been imposed on the Arab nation—the period which the agents, the agents of Zionism and imperialism, had prophesied defeat, ruin and humiliation and who thought that the nation can hand over its affairs to its enemies—we say to them now that this stage will retreat and go backward in the face of the march of the masses from Mogadishu to Janzur. The confrontation with the masses has begun from Mogadishu to Janzur. The stage of defeat has begun to roll back in front of the march of the masses who are resolved to score victory.

Brothers, we say to them that if you want to challenge us with your fleets and with your money and with your terrorism: We who do not possess fleets, aircraft carriers, or money, we have the masses, the masses with which we challenge you. We do not challenge you with aircraft, terrorism, or money. We challenge you with the masses who are yearning for freedom, the masses who have the right to live on the land of their fathers and forefathers in freedom, dignity and worthiness. We challenge you with the masses who cannot be defeated, the masses who never retreat, the masses who do not calculate losses when they enter the battle of destiny.

It is the rulers who are cowards because they calculate their losses. The governments are characterized by cowardice and hesitation because they calculate before their peoples how much they stand to lose or gain in any battle. But when the people enter into a battle they do not make such calculations. When the people enter into a battle it will inevitably be decisive in favor of the people who are determined to live in freedom. Our people are determined to live in freedom on the land of their fathers and forefathers. This land—Janzur—has

been ours for the past 5,000 years. We cannot compromise it; we cannot compromise even one grain of its sand. [applause]

From now on we have no intermediaries to send to them, nor delegations. From now on there will be no negotiations between us and them. From now on we will send them your shattering silence, your challenging silence which is stronger than the Security Council and stronger than the forces of the West which are in alliance against the peoples. From now on we will send to their capital cities the shouts of the masses, the shouts of the free people—people who are masters in their own land, who do not accept any foreign base or foreign subservience. They will not compromise even a part of their territory or water in favor of the foreigner, O brothers. We will send them your strong shouts only. Let them hear that well; let them understand that well. Let them know what the shouts of the angry masses mean, here in Janzur and in any place where the masses exploded.

These are the messages which we send them, O brothers. [applause and cheers] They wanted enmity and hatred, O brothers. Let there be enmity and hatred between us and them until doomsday. We held out an olive branch to them; we offered them good intentions. We told them that we befriend whoever wants to befriend us, and we extended our hands to them. We told them: Let the Mediterranean be a sea of peace, tourism, trade, and friendship among the peoples bordering this sea. We told them, O brothers, that the Republican- Reaganist-imperialist America is finished, and that we are opening our hearts and extending our hands to a Democratic and nonimperialist America which stays within its own borders and which knows that it is a state like any other state, not having any right to interfere into the affairs of others.

We respect international law more than you, we told them. Let us seek arbitration in the International Court of Justice, the United Nations, and the common interests among nations. But if they want enmity, let there be enmity. We have nothing to lose at all. Let the white sea [Mediterranean] be turned into a red sea. [passage omitted]

If they do not want friendship, then down with it and let enmity replace it. If they do not want peace, then down with peace and let all the white doves be slaughtered and the red and black banners of war be raised.

All efforts have been in vain. We remained silent. We negotiated. We thanked them. We praised them. We have been patient with them. Now, they think that this was weakness on our part. Because this is their explanation of our behavior, and because they have negative answers to our positive messages and letters, then let what they want happen. If they want enmity, then we welcome it, if they want war, we welcome it too. We have nothing to lose. We are ready to enter the battle and to have a quarter of a million, half a million, or a million people to destroy imperialism and the tyranny of these arrogant people.

We are ready to enter a historic battle. They are the cowards who will retreat when there is bloodshed and when the earth becomes red like ointment. [Koranic quotation] Then, the cowards and imperialists will retreat because they are taking risks, being greedy, and because they are like brokers and tradesmen looking for cheap gain without paying any price to lay their hands on your oil, your land, and the peoples' wealth.

When there is blood, confrontation, and human losses then they will not be able to face the battle. They will retreat in a cowardly and vile way, as they have already done in Somalia. We revile them because of what happened to them in Somalia. They flew their flags at half mast in Somalia in the face of the steadfastness of the Somali people.

When innumerable Somali victims fell in resistance, and when the Somalis downed the imperialists' aircraft and walked barefoot over thousands of imperialist soldiers, then the cowards retreated and the adventurer forces retreated.

O brothers, our battle is not an adventure. It is not a battle seeking the wealth of others and trying to humiliate them as they are doing. Our battle is not an adventure. It is a serious battle which we are waging on the land of our fathers and our forefathers. No renunciation [tafrit], no surrender, and no retreat! [audience chants slogans]

They believed, brothers, that by having the oil you became weak. They believed that you have lost the bravery of your fathers and forefathers, and have lost the ability to resist. They wrongly believed that the oil has corrupted Libya and the Libyan youth, and has corrupted the sons and grandsons of the mujahidin and the martyrs. They believed, brothers, that they were able to conquer you with their canned food, their dishes, and their cheap and trivial and rotten goods. They believed that they have bought you by these imports and consumer goods. They believed that the Libyan people, and the rest of the peoples who have oil, lack capability to resist and to confront them, brothers. They believed this. You should be aware of this—that they have transgressed against you, and that they have thought bad things about you, and have described you as not being able to resist any longer. This is shameful. This is an insult against us, brothers. These dogs have been bold enough to say let us hold a conference in New York or Paris or London to decide the fate of the Libyan people. Look at this insult being voiced by these dogs. Should the Libyan people's fate be decided in Paris? Should the Libyan people's fate be decided in Washington? Should the Libyan people's fate be decided in London? These cowards are liars. This is the free Libyan people—the masters of their own destiny; they decide their fate by themselves. [passage omitted]

We are the ones who decided the fate of London—we are the people who used to be colonized. We are the ones who decided the fate of the capital of the empire on which the sun never used to set. The sun did set on Britain and it

became a vile and torn state. We are the ones who are now being contacted by the people of Scotland demanding liberation from London. The people of Scotland (?ask) the Libyan people; they want separation from the empire which has ended and on which the sun has set. What capital city is this in which a small group of people, like the Irish people, fight in its squares and in its streets—the explosions are taking place in Piccadilly Circus; mortars are fired on the British Houses of Parliament. Look at the people gloating over the misfortunes of the empire on which the sun never used to set. This is its fate because it confronted the people. It believed that it would own the globe and everything on it, but this colonialist empire lied. We are the peoples who decide their fate, and not they who decide our fate. Now Moscow—which used to control half of the globe—is defending its border from a position of defense, against the Tajiks, the Abkhaz, and the Chechens—small nations which used to be colonized by Moscow. [passage omitted]

Let them hear the voice of these millions of people. It is stronger than the voices in the Security Council, stronger than those voices which have been bought with dollars in the Security Council. These voices are cheap. Here is the true Libyan voice which makes decisions, which decides what it likes. Here is the voice that is stronger than the voice of the Security Council, stronger than the voice of the United Nations, which they have falsified along with the UN Charter.

Let them hear the voice of the angry and defiant masses. O brothers, Mu'ammār al-Qadhafī is not confronting the Western alliance in the same way as any other ruler. They think he would confront it with his army or aircraft or tanks. Mu'ammār al-Qadhafī is just a member of the people who are confronting them with the people in the midst of the masses. [passage omitted]

O brothers, we are not preparing to conduct raids or conquests; we are not preparing to cross the seas and threaten others. But we are fighting with complete confidence on the land of our fathers and forefathers. That is where our strength comes from and it is from there that we are confident of victory because we are fighting on the land of our fathers and forefathers. [passage omitted]

Brothers, we have nothing in front of us except more challenges. Truly, we have nothing except more challenges in front of us with which to challenge them, because we have done all we could in return for friendship, amity, and cooperation between nations. But they acted rashly, the megalomania complex has overcome them and power madness has dominated them. In this way they are losing the friendship of the nations which had extended the hand of friendship to them.

Nations today are raising the flags of challenge; here in historic Janzur the voice of defiance is heard, this place which is also an important corner of historic Tripoli.

The town of Tripoli stands in the front lines of historic challenges by the shores of the Arab sea, the Mediterranean—let them hear the roaring voice from the corners of Tripoli. Let them hear it here in Janzur as they heard

it in Tajura, Bin Ghashir, Suq al-Khamis, Suq al-Jum'ah, and Bu Milyana in the heart of Tripoli.

There is no doubt they are hearing these roaring masses, the defiant masses, these masses which appear to have had enough of befriending these tyrants and they had enough of their false accusations, the dogs; brothers, we have to confront them and expose them. They are the terrorists. They are the ones who downed their planes and they are the ones who killed our children. [passage indistinct]

Brothers, we are friends of those who befriend us and we punish those who punish us. Yes, brothers we have to decide at our popular congresses, the master and free people must decide to punish those who punish them.

Yes, if anyone boycotts us we will boycott them a thousand times. If anyone blockades us we will blockade them a thousand times. It is they who need the gasoline. It is they who need our consumer markets. It is they who need our projects and our investments.

O brothers, we will punish all those who voted against us in the Security Council in an act of injustice and aggression. As long as the voices of the Security Council legislate with threats and terrorism, we will use the same method against the false Security Council. We will punish you who have joined together against those who have suffered injustice. We will punish the European countries among others. Punishment is in our hands. It is they whose houses are made of glass, and people who live in glass houses should not throw stones. We will punish all those who lined up against us with our enemies.

The Libyan people are capable of giving up their food, their clothes, their cars, and their homes for the sake of punishing their adversary. In the end what is important is not how much we have eaten, or worn, or drunk. What is important is that we have gained victory over our enemy in the end. [passage omitted]

Beside me in this historic place is my brother revolutionary Jerry Rawlings, leader of the revolution in Ghana, and the vice president of Bosnia-Herzegovina who is also here to greet you. The presence of Jerry Rawlings with us confirms that the free peoples are standing with you. You are not alone in the battle. The people who have been liberated by the revolution are with you. Jerry Rawlings will address you now.

### Rawlings Views Lockerbie Crisis

*LD0912232993 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 2014 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Speech by Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings to the inhabitants of the town of Janzur on 9 December—recorded; in English with passage-by-passage translation into Arabic; processed from the English]

[Text] Hello, my brothers and sisters. Thank you very much. It feels indeed good to be with you again. I bring you greetings, not just from my countrymen in Ghana,

but from a good number of African citizens—good and honorable people. My .... [crowd chants]

Thank you, my brothers and sisters. Hold on a minute. We may have a few differences in the sense that I come from Ghana. You are here up in Libya. But we are both Africans, and most of all we are both revolutionaries. My brothers and sisters [passage indistinct], the difference between a genuine revolutionary and a non-genuine one or non-revolutionary is that a revolutionary, a genuine one, does not look at truth and turn his back. A genuine revolutionary does not look at reality and begin to see illusions. In other words, I want to share a few thoughts with you. [crowd chants]

Thank you very much. I will not take too much time. But please, please, hold on a minute. Don't forget. There are old women—old men and women—among you. So, make a little room so that you don't crush them. Now, listen. A sheep can only enjoy the freedom of its life to be alive when it lives with a vegetarian. For those of us who eat meat, the freedom of the sheep cannot be the same, cannot correspond to our freedom. My brothers and sisters, it's so very unfortunate that a little too often genuine freedom fighters are branded as terrorists.

This noble country, under the leadership of brother al-Qadhdhafi, has assisted so many communities, countries, to attain their political freedom, their economic freedom. And a little too often, in people's struggle to attain their political and economic freedom, others have ended up being hurt. This is why I find it most unfortunate that sometimes genuine freedom fighters—or your attempt to help freedom fighters—has tended to earn you the stigma of supporting terrorists. This is not the case.

This is not to say, this is not to say that I agree with acts of terrorism. I don't. And I think it's most uncivilized to take the lives of innocent people, as happened in that Lockerbie affair. Ladies and gentlemen, Libya is entitled to her right to be heard in the neutral country and not in the country of her accusers. This is not only our position, but this is the position of Africa as well, and of any genuine, morally minded, legally minded person. This is why we find it most regrettable that the Security Council and some of those countries have not heeded to the call of the OAU to transfer or ensure that this trial is held in a neutral country in order to ensure justice and fairness. The recent .... [crowd chants]

Ladies and gentlemen, my brothers and sisters, you sound and you look very defiant. I want to assure you that you don't go to war with slogans. They've instituted sanctions that could lead to an economic bite. When you say to hell with it, that is not what will defy the situation. You will have to gear yourself up and prepare yourself for it. You will have to work harder; you will have to brace yourself for hardships. When you can't find rice, you can't find macaroni, don't take it out on him [al-Qadhdhafi].

Ladies and gentlemen, may I continue? Listen! [crowd chants]

My brothers, I hear you. You say you will be prepared to live with water and bread. When the time comes, you will have to do it. Listen, listen! [crowd chants]

My brothers and sisters, I am glad to hear you say you are prepared to shed your blood for your country and for your leader. May Allah bless you and strengthen you for it. But I hope that the situation would not degenerate to such an extent as to call for such a sacrifice. And yet, ladies and gentlemen.... [crowd chants]

And yet, ladies and gentlemen.... [crowd chants] ladies and gentlemen, no, the world is not your enemy, has never been your enemy, and will never be your enemy.

Not for all the contributions that you have also provided to civilization since your ancestors' time and since your revolution....[crowd chants]

Ladies and gentlemen, our recent meeting in Cairo was an effort to find ways and means of solving some of these problems—preventing some of these conflicts that are gripping this continent of ours. The issue of Libya was one of those that was also discussed. I am glad that you have taken the position—as we have also advocated, as I said—for this issue to be solved in a neutral country. Let us hope that these Western powers will accept that principle. And when I say this, when we advocate for such a position, it is not necessarily in solidarity with you. It is not necessarily in sympathy with you, but is based on a principle that it is only morally right and it only makes legal sense that this issue be held outside. Let us hope that together we can persuade some of those powers to see that [words indistinct] to be held outside.

My brothers and sisters, and when that is agreed upon I hope you will not let us down by also advising our brothers to move to the neutral country. Let me give you my opinion, because if you don't, you and I are going to be seen as being guilty. And yet I know and I believe that you and I are not guilty. What some of us are suffering now is because of our defiant spirit, and our love of freedom, and our assistance to people who love freedom.

I don't know how long the drugs in your homes and hospitals will last. But, I find it most unrevolutionary. And—to be smearing rubbish all around this beautiful city of yours—so long as this rubbish piles up, you are going to need drugs. And the drugs may not come in. This is what I mean by: You will have to start doing things a bit more responsibly because conditions may get tougher.

Ladies and gentlemen, that is all I've brought you. I wish you God's blessing, and I wish you all [words indistinct] and may your revolution continue. Thank you very much.

#### **Bosnian Vice President Arrives in Tripoli**

LD0912210993 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1625 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 9 Dec, JANA—Bosnian Vice President Ejup Ganic arrived this afternoon in Tripoli on a visit to the Great Jamahiriyyah. [passage omitted]

In a statement to JANA, the Bosnian vice president expressed his happiness at visiting the Great Jamahiriyah. He said: We highly appreciate the efforts by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the revolution, to find a peaceful solution to the continuing conflict there. He indicated that his visit to the Great Jamahiriyah was also to inform Col. al-Qadhdhafi about the current situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina—an area in which the brother leader has shown great interest in reaching a peaceful solution between the conflicting parties. In addition, the visit was to discuss existing cooperation between the Great Jamahiriyah and Bosnia-Herzegovina in various fields.

### Sudan

#### Al-Bashir Discusses Foreign, Domestic Developments

PM0912135293 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI in Arabic 8 Dec 93 p 4

[Interview with President 'Umar al-Bashir by 'Abd-al-Bari 'Atwan and Mahmud Ma'ruf in Khartoum; date not given]

[Text] [AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] It is noted that the danger is gradually moving closer to Sudan. Do you sense this danger, and was the military parade we watched a message of deterrence?

[Al-Bashir] We have sensed the danger since the early days of the revolution. A war began and was declared against Sudan in a gradual and concealed manner, represented in the suspension of aid and loans, media campaigns, and attacks by organizations. We sense this danger much more today. Thus the people have to be ready, and we have told them that what has happened is only the beginning. The message we are carrying and our orientation will not satisfy the powers currently dominating the world, which are continuing the escalation against Sudan—an escalation which could reach the stage of an armed invasion, as happened in the last century when the British empire dominated the world. The revolution erupted in Sudan, so Britain invaded Sudan.

We have to confront this war and be ready if an armed invasion is launched against us. We must prepare the Sudanese people morally through spiritual, political, and jihad mobilization and material preparation in training them in using weapons. We can say now that we have prepared what power we can, God willing.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] Is Sudan's inclusion on the terrorism list a step closer to an armed invasion?

[Al-Bashir] Of course, all that—accusing Sudan of violating human rights and of obstructing and opposing the work of relief organizations—is a preparation for an invasion. It is useful to go back in history. Before the

armed imperialist British onslaught, missionary organizations arrived in Sudan, they penetrated Sudan, and the armies came to protect these organizations. Current relief organizations are a prelude to an armed invasion. Under the siege policy, these organizations provide the justification for a military campaign.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] Before any Arab country is besieged and then hit it tends to be isolated at the Arab level first. Are you thinking of reactivating Sudanese-Arab relations to ward off the approaching danger?

[Al-Bashir] Anyone following the situation in Sudan will realize that since the eruption of the revolution we have been seeking to develop our Arab relations, because the Arab world is our natural and ideal rear. All our attempts at the Arab level, whether through bilateral meetings or at the Arab League, have focused on uniting Arab ranks and informing the Arab brothers of what happened to any Arab state as a prelude to similar action against other Arab states. What happened to Iraq was a prelude to what is currently happening to Libya, Somalia, and Sudan, and will extend to include the other Arab states. We are trying, but regrettably Sudan's appeal has not encountered sufficient response. For example, at the Arab foreign ministers conference, which was held before the UN Security Council adopted the resolution concerning sanctions against Libya, we proposed that the Arab League adopt a resolution stipulating that the Arabs would not comply with any resolution adopted by the Security Council against any Arab state. Of course, noncompliance with Security Council resolutions is no innovation. Israel refused to implement UN Security Council Resolution 799 concerning the Palestinian deportees' return. In fact the Israeli prime minister said that the Security Council can adopt whatever resolutions it likes, because as far as Israel is concerned, they are worth nothing. We as Arabs want any resolution against any Arab state to be worth nothing to us. Then the Security Council would not dare adopt any resolution against any Arab state. In current Arab conditions, however, resolutions will be adopted against Arabs and will be implemented by the other Arabs.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] Do you expect an international blockade before an invasion, especially after Sudan's inclusion on the terrorism list?

[Al-Bashir] We expect everything. The developments we are experiencing—Washington's decision to escalate hostility toward Sudan; the launch of a U.S. media campaign against Sudan, accusing it of terrorism; the decision to include Sudan on the terrorism list; then continuing the escalation by talking about human rights violations—all this, as I said, is a prelude to new steps which will develop into a blockade. If this blockade does not produce the results they are seeking, they will move to another step.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] No doubt you are interested in the situation in Somalia. Are you concerned that the aim of the reconciliation attempts might be to perpetuate the

fait accompli and consolidate the foreign presence, and do you expect these attempts to succeed?

[Al-Bashir] Of course we hope reconciliation attempts in Somalia will succeed. But they cannot succeed without moving away from foreign intervention. This intervention is aimed at perpetuating conditions and has an agenda it is trying to implement. But this agenda is rejected by most of the Somali people; I am not saying all the Somali people, because some leaders are implicated in this agenda.

We are certain that if the brothers in Somalia keep away from foreign intervention, and if foreign parties refrain from interfering in Somali internal affairs, and if the Somalis talk with one another just as Somalis, they will secure the right solutions for the Somali people. These solutions should first and foremost include the removal of foreign forces from Somalia.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] Sudan is accused of supporting General Aidid and Islamic groups in Somalia.

[Al-Bashir] Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, is a simple city which has no highrises or high or dense trees. Thus the route to Mogadishu should be under the U.S. and international forces' observation, because it is not possible for us to send anything to Somalia without it being observed. The sugar ship we sent was searched sack by sack. But praise be to God, Gen. Aidid has carried out the mission without any support. Everyone can see that the armed used are ordinary and simple arms inherited from the Siad Barre regime. And everyone knows that the basic element in the war is the Somali homeland.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] The Palestinian issue has recently witnessed rapid developments. What is Sudan's position on what has happened, especially the Gaza-Jericho agreement.

[Al-Bashir] We in Sudan are for a solution that achieves for the Palestinian people their right to self-determination and to establish their independent state on their territory, with Jerusalem as its capital.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] You made efforts in the past to improve relations between Iraq and Iran and between Iraq and Syria, as you have cordial relations with the three states. What stage has been reached in these efforts?

[Al-Bashir] Our efforts have not been interrupted and are continuing. We are very hopeful that they will bear fruit, especially as we have sensed Syria's, Iraq's, and Iran's desire to surmount their differences.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] Relations with Cairo are still clouded with ambiguity and there are campaigns in Cairo because of the Popular Arab Islamic Conference [held in Khartoum]. The Hala'ib issue has not been raised for a while, and the two foreign ministers have not met yet.

[Al-Bashir] The only positive development in Egyptian-Sudanese relations is the suspension of the media campaign. Apart from that, there is nothing new. The meeting of the two foreign ministers has been postponed three times at Egypt's request. With regard to Hala'ib, it is a Sudanese area, no matter what action Egypt takes in the area. Anyway, consultations with the brothers in Egypt are continuing in order to resolve the issue peacefully. As for the Popular Conference, people tend to think that any Muslim gathering is aimed against Egypt. We had hoped that Egypt with its status, capabilities, and history would be the leader of Islamic action in the region.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] The fuel crisis is a source of concern, unrest, and alarm in Sudan. How can such a crisis exist, when your relations with both Iran and Libya are cordial?

[Al-Bashir] The fuel crisis is not new. All regimes in Sudan have experienced it since independence, because we are oil importers, and our imports depend on our ability to purchase in hard currency. For two years we have been purchasing gasoline with our own resources without any facilities from any quarter.

We have cordial relations with Libya and Iran, but they are not as the Western media portray them, namely complete alliances. We are aware of the aim behind portraying these relations in such a manner, namely to serve imperialist aims designed to attack Sudan.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] In the recent cabinet reshuffle the finance minister was removed. Does that mean that financial policy was the cause of the economic crisis, and is there a change in Sudan's economic orientation?

[Al-Bashir] No. The minister was not replaced because of his economic policy, because economic policy is not a minister's policy; it is the government's policy. We all believe in the economic liberalization policy, because it is the only way out for the Sudanese economy, in order to increase productivity so as to achieve self-sufficiency and secure our hard currency needs to cover our imports. Economic liberalization continues to make producers feel the benefit of increasing their productivity, especially in the agricultural sphere, which has become completely liberalized. There can be no backtracking on this policy. As for the cabinet reshuffle, it is natural, because there are no permanent ministers.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] There are conflicting views as regards movement to civilian rule, especially over the date.

[Al-Bashir] The problem is that whenever we take a step in that direction, some people think it is a surprise and that it had not been expected. But the political program we have endorsed stressed from the outset that the achievement of civilian rule is our aim. Those who are hostile toward Sudan are trying to conceal this information.

We have said from the outset that the aim is to move to civilian rule through basic congresses from districts and villages. Then they would develop into local, allegiance [wala'i], and central congresses. We have begun implementation. We convened the basic congresses and reached the local rule congresses. And we are now preparing for allegiance rule in order to reach—in addition to sector and national congresses—an elected national assembly, and then an elected president of the republic.

We saw that, instead of using the congresses and natural development, there should be an appointed transitional national assembly to which the powers of the 15-member Revolution Command Council [RCC] should be transferred. We were eager to ensure that the assembly's 300 members represent all Sudanese groups. We did not even object to the presence in the assembly of all political stripes existing in Sudanese political life. We also saw that there must be a president for the period preceding the election of the president of the republic.

We are now preparing for the allegiance congresses, which will hold their meetings before 30 June. We are also preparing for the sector congresses at center level. There are eight of these congresses (economic, social, cultural, women, youth, student and judicial, security and defense, diplomatic, and administrative). These congresses include all unions, associations, and organizations operating in these domains. After these congresses hold their meetings, their representatives to the National Assembly will be elected. There are also the geographical national elections. Thus the National Assembly includes representatives elected from these three congresses, whose program has not been completed fully yet, but matters are developing.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] Some quarters believe that the RCC's dissolution is a formality, as some of its members are still in the cabinet or in their previous posts.

[Al-Bashir] RCC members had powers which a minister does not have. A minister is a minister, whether he is a former RCC member or comes from another position. The RCC was the real authority. It was the RCC which appointed the Transitional National Assembly and the Council of Ministers and which declared war and states of emergency. These powers are not available to the Council of Ministers.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] Have you not thought about returning to partisan life?

[Al-Bashir] There is no place for parties among us. Our decision to hand over power to the people was the least popular decision since we launched the revolution. Citizens remembered the Siwar-al-Dhahab experience and thought that we were going to bring the parties back, hold elections, and return parties to power with their symbols, and they tend to return in a worse manner than before.

True, Sudanese parties played an important national role in the fifties. It was they who achieved independence in 1954. And they worked in a short period of time to move foreign forces out of Sudan and to Sudanize jobs. They also breached the signed agreement and announced independence in the parliament, although the agreement stipulated that a people's referendum should be conducted over independence. But after independence, the sectarian forces came to protect their interests, position, and future, thus distracting partisan action from its tasks, as interests among sectarian houses—al-Mahdi's house and al-Mirghani's house—governed everything. Sudan as a whole was devoted to serving these two houses. The Armed Forces were mobilized many times and the parties returned many times. The people rallied around the May [revolution] despite the communist orientations it carried, merely to express their abhorrence of the parties' practices.

The people in Sudan reject parties. Proof of this is the charter for defending democracy after Numayri's overthrow. This charter, which united parties and unions to defend democracy, was signed with blood by some of them. The most important thing in this charter is that once a military coup was announced, everyone would engage in collective civil disobedience. But the opposite took place. On the day the revolution was launched, that is 30 June, all Sudanese farmers staged a strike, rejecting the partisan government. We would understand it if a worker stages a strike, as he is going to go back to work following it. But a farmers' strike wastes a whole season for them and deprives them and their families of their livelihood for months. When the revolution was announced, the farmers union urged their members to return to their farms so as not to miss the agricultural season.

As I said, our decision to return power to the people was unacceptable until we explained to the people that the decision did not mean handing power over to the parties, but, rather, to the masses directly. It is the masses which will choose the authority and exercise power without any partisanship. Sudan wants to express its opinion and say that this is wrong and that is right, so parties have no place among us, God willing.

[AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI] The reconciliation with the Garang movement over the south in Abuja has failed. Why?

[Al-Bashir] The reason is the U.S. position. We have known since the beginning that, if Garang did not head the movement's delegation to the talks, they would fail, because his delegations usually have no powers. Garang had officially promised to lead the movement's delegation. But on the day negotiations started the United States sent him an invitation to visit. It kept him there for 21 days, that is until the last day of the negotiations.

The states of the Horn of Africa have made an initiative, because these states are affected by the war in the south

and it is in their interests to bring it to an end. We have accepted the initiative and hope it will succeed.

**Foreign Minister on Search for Settlement, U.S. Position**

*PM0912162393 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Dec 93 p 6*

[Report on interview with Foreign Minister Dr. Husayn Abu-Salih by Muhammad Sa'id Muhammad al-Hasan in Khartoum; date not given: "Washington Seminar Was Held for Purpose of Combating Khartoum Regime"]

[Excerpts] Sudanese Foreign Minister Dr. Husayn Abu-Salih has stated that the seminar held in Washington a few weeks ago with the participation of opposition representatives and U.S. Congress officials was for the purpose of uniting the Garang movement's factions to fight the Sudanese Government.

In an interview with AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT he said that the question of the right of self-determination for southern Sudan was settled by Sudan as far back as 1955. It is in fact, he said, a call for the secession of the south. He emphasized that the right of self-determination "is not something that is decided by the rebel factions and granted where it should not be. The government will not forfeit Sudan's unity nor will it accept dialogue with anyone unless it is in the framework of one united Sudan."

On the U.S. Administration's declaration that it did not participate in the Washington seminar and that its attention was focused on promoting a cease-fire, Dr. Abu-Salih said that "if it is true that the United States is in favor of a cease-fire then that would be acceptable, but the risk is that the cease-fire might be exploited to strengthen one side at the other's expense. We advocate a cease-fire and sitting down to a dialogue to resolve the issue and establish peace."

On Sudan's relations with the United States, Abu-Salih said that he had met with George Moose, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, and given him a thorough explanation of the Sudanese Government's policies. He added: "I also refuted the charges made against Sudan without any evidence on the issues of human rights and terrorism. The meeting ended with the conclusion that neither Sudan nor the United States wanted confrontation or boycott. That is why it was agreed to continue the serious dialogue with the aim of arriving at a formula that would enable the establishment of normal healthy relations serving the mutual interests of the two countries without any element of hegemony whatsoever."

Abu-Salih said that Sudan was facing a campaign aimed at "isolating it from its African and Arab environments, distorting its image in the world, and linking its beliefs and cultural trend to terrorism in order to blockade it, as

other states have been, although we are a peaceful nation known to all as such and we condemn all forms and kinds of terrorism."

He criticized the U.S. decision to add Sudan to the list of states which sponsor terrorism, saying that the decision sidesteps the United Nations. He added that "what is true about terrorism is that some states use it as a pretext to terrorize other states. A superpower uses its might to terrorize smaller states in the developing world for insisting on their independent decisionmaking, rejecting subservience, and holding views different from its own."

On Sudan's position on what is going on in Somalia, Abu-Salih said that "time has shown that Sudan's position on Somalia was right. We called for a political solution and for reconciliation among the Somali factions and we voiced the opinion that the states of the Horn of Africa knew their problems best and were more capable of finding solutions for these problems. The work of the Horn of Africa Committee under the chairmanship of Ethiopian President Zenawi Meles played an effective part in the success of the Addis Ababa reconciliation conference and its recommendations. Perhaps the UN forces' loss of direction and their collision with the Somali people—even though they went there to restore hope—are matters which require rectification by focusing on what we said earlier." [passage omitted]

Asked if the recent developments after the Washington seminar and the Sudanese Government's talk of foreign interference impeded the chances of establishing peace in the south, Abu-Salih said that "peace can be achieved by war or peaceful means. We have frequently and repeatedly said that we favor a diplomatic solution to establish just peace through negotiations. We have made efforts and persisted over the past four years in pursuit of that."

On Egyptian-Sudanese relations, Abu-Salih said: "I wish to say that we expected the Egyptian foreign minister to visit us in October, but the Egyptian brothers asked for a postponement until after President Mubarak's reelection and the formation of a new cabinet. Then 14 November was set as the date for the Egyptian foreign minister's visit to Sudan, but they then declined again. Let me say that I have visited Egypt four times since February 1993. The two presidents have met in Cairo, and we expect them to do so in Khartoum. I do not believe that there is anything to prevent our solution of all outstanding issues, including the Hala'ib issue."

The Sudanese foreign minister said that there was an international moral commitment to the Palestinian-Israeli agreement and that, therefore, the international community was requested to follow up and implement the Palestinian-Israeli agreement in a fair manner. He added that it is on the shoulders of the Arab states that rests "responsibility for ensuring the success of that agreement. Israel should also comply with UN Resolutions 242, 338, and 425. We hope that peace would be established in this region through the success of the

Palestinian-Israeli agreement and the work done on all other tracks for the return of the Arab territories in the Syrian Golan, Jordan, and southern Lebanon."

Asked if it was possible to break the blockade imposed on Sudan, he said: "I do not know if there is a blockade imposed by the Arab states. What we have is a lack of cooperation between Sudan and the Western states. That is why Sudan has turned east and we have consolidated our relations with such states as, for instance, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Iran. We will seek more openness and cooperation with the Asian states." [passage omitted]

#### **National Assembly Condemns Decision by U.S. Congress**

*EA0912162993 Khartoum SUNA in French 0930 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Dec (SUNA)—The Transitional National Assembly approved a communique presented by the assembly's Commission of External Relations on Tuesday [7 December], with a view to responding to a recent decision by the U.S. Congress on the situation in Sudan.

According to the communique, the Commission of External Relations has followed since October 1992 the hostile positions taken by the U.S. Congress against Sudan, which resulted in a number of decisions by the U.S. body.

The communique stated that the commission takes the view that those decisions incited the U.S. Administration to take positions against Sudan under the pretext of false allegations, aimed primarily at maligning Sudan's reputation. The communique also stresses that the [word indistinct] terrorist acts and at the same time talks of violations of human rights.

The unjust campaign against Sudan is aimed at undermining its independence and Islamic orientation, the communique added.

It also pointed out that the Sudanese people are able to solve their problems without foreign interference in Sudan's internal affairs.

The communique affirmed that Sudan pays particular attention to the implementation of a democratic system, in conformity with the aspirations of the Sudanese people.

The communique also discusses a document on human rights in Sudan which was written by the Transitional National Assembly, [words indistinct] with a view to protecting such rights.

The Commission of External Relations termed the proposition of the U.S. Congress on the self-determination of the people of southern Sudan an action aimed at destroying Sudan's unity, the communique added.

The communique added that the commission pointed out that the U.S. Congress must take responsibility for obstructing steps to restore peace in the entire country.

Finally, the communique warned the U.S. Administration against interfering in the internal affairs of Sudan.

#### **Citizens Released by Egypt Return; Egyptians Depart**

*EA0912162493 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Five Sudanese citizens who were released by Egyptian authorities following intensive contacts between officials of the two countries' foreign ministries returned today. The four Egyptians who were released by the Sudanese authorities left Khartoum aboard the same aircraft that carried the Sudanese home.

The SUDAN NEWS AGENCY reported that the Sudanese citizens who were released and arrived in the country today are: Azhari Bashir Ahmad, Khalid Harun, Haytham Muhammad 'Uthman, Ahmad Mahmud Tawfiq and Yasir Ahmad Husayn. The detainees spent varying periods of around two years in Egypt until they were proven not guilty and released.

## Qatar

### Algerian Minister Arrives, Comments on OPEC

LD0912234993 *Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic*  
2200 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Following the serious upheavals which led to a fall in oil prices, several concerned countries, including Algeria, are taking action to improve the situation. Energy Minister Ahmed Benbitour arrived in the Qatari capital yesterday with a delegation for a three-day visit at the invitation of his Qatari counterpart.

Mr. Benbitour said today that the OPEC member states must adopt a collective and united stand in order to face the recent disturbances in the oil market. He also indicated that he is planning to hold talks with Qatari officials to discuss ways of strengthening cooperation between the two countries, especially in the field of energy.

## United Arab Emirates

### Sources Cited on Dispute With Iran Over Islands

PM1012104493 *London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic* 9 Dec 93 pp 1, 4

[Report by Taj-al-Din 'Abd-al-Haqq: "Emirates Denies Velayati's Statement on Resumption of Dialogue Over Islands]

[Text] Abu Dhabi—Well-informed United Arab Emirates [UAE] sources have said that nothing new has occurred in the issue of the dialogue with Tehran over the three UAE islands [Tunb al-Kubra, Tunb al-Sughra, and Abu Musa] occupied by Iran since 1971.

Commenting on what foreign news agencies quoted Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati as saying, that is with regard to the resumption of the dialogue over the islands, which was suspended last September, the sources added that they knew nothing about the existence of indirect talks with Iran, and that the UAE had assigned no one to deal with this question.

The sources pointed out that the UAE has on several occasions announced that it is seeking a direct dialogue regarding the dispute over the three islands—which was emphasized by UAE President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan in his national day address recently. He announced "the UAE's complete willingness and sincere desire to conduct a direct dialogue with the Islamic Republic of Iran over its occupation of the three UAE islands."

The sources pointed out that Dr. Velayati's statement, which was carried by news agencies, talks about a dispute between the two countries over Abu Musa Island only, when the main disputed point which caused the suspension of the dialogue between the two countries is Iran's refusal to discuss the issue of its occupation of Tunb

al-Kubra and Tunb al-Sughra Islands. This refusal caused Shaykh Hamdan Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, minister of state for foreign affairs, to cancel a visit to Tehran, after Iran's refusal to issue a statement that the talks would deal with the three islands issue.

The sources said that the UAE deals with the islands issue in accordance with the following constants:

- The UAE is committed to peaceful means to end Iran's occupation of the three islands in accordance with international conventions and laws and in line with the principles of good-neighborliness. It also rejects the use of force or the threat to use it as a means to resolve disputes among states.

In the light of this principle the UAE's options in this connection are all peaceful options, including the attempt to find a peaceful solution through direct dialogue and referring the issue to the United Nations and other international organizations concerned with settling disputes.

- The UAE is seeking a legal solution for the island issue by using the legal documents and historical evidence which prove the right to sovereignty over the three islands. Thus the UAE rejects a political solution based on trying to achieve compromises tackling the effects of the island crisis rather than the essence of the dispute, that is tackling the issue of the escalation measures Iran has embarked on in Abu Musa island, from the expulsion of UAE teachers and citizens from the island to the decision to appoint a military governor for the island last month.

The sources said that the essence of the dispute is all three islands, not just Abu Musa island. It also includes the issue of sovereignty over the three islands, not just the issue of the measures Iran has taken unilaterally in Abu Musa island in violation of the memorandum of understanding signed with the UAE in November 1971.

The UAE rejects in principle any Gulf or Arab mediation in the islands issue, because it sees this as backtracking on what was agreed in the meetings held in the Gulf Cooperation Council framework or the Arab League framework, which clearly emphasized the UAE's historical and legal claim to the islands.

The sources say that the only framework acceptable to the endeavors of a third party is for this party to seek to persuade Iran to abandon its rejection of the principle of direct dialogue over its occupation of the three islands and to try to persuade it to accept the principle of arbitration by international law and international legitimacy with regard to the dispute with the UAE over the islands.

At another level, Frank Wisner, U.S. Defense Department under secretary for political affairs, left Abu Dhabi yesterday after a brief visit within his current tour of the region.

Well-informed sources have said that Wisner discussed with UAE officials a number of regional issues, including the question of the three islands occupied by Iran.

The sources said that the United States supports, in principle, the UAE's view regarding the need to find a peaceful solution to this problem through direct dialogue and in accordance with international laws and legitimacy.

Among those with whom the U.S. official met while in Abu Dhabi were Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, Abu Dhabi's heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the Armed Forces; Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, chief of staff; and Shaykh Hamdan Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, minister of state for foreign affairs, who met Wisner at the airport.

### Yemen

#### Salih, al-Bid Discuss Present 'Crisis'

NC0812211593 London MBC Television in Arabic 1836 GMT 7 Dec 93

[Interviews with President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih in Sanaa and Vice President 'Ali Salim al-Bid in Aden by Tawfiq al-Jazulit; date not given; from the "special program": "Yemen in Crisis"—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Jazulit] Four years and a bit have passed since Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his Vice President 'Ali Salim al-Bid signed the Yemeni unity agreement in Aden on 30 November 1989. After three years and eight months of the proclamation of the united Yemeni state on 22 May 1990, the Yemenis find their new state going through an unprecedented political crisis. The question here is about the prospects of unity and the guarantees for sustaining it and strengthening its structure. [passage omitted]

[Al-Bid] The unity of the Yemeni people required the establishment of a national market; the Yemeni population exceeds 18 million and the area of Yemen exceeds 0.5 million square meters. Such a market required a panoramic vision to build a new state—a state bigger and better than the two states that existed before the unity.

In the early days of our unity—those historic moments that come only once—we had to take certain measures to fully unite the army and the leading public institutions and build a united state. This process proceeded slowly and things happened. We cannot absolve ourselves of the responsibility, because we all are partners. There were two regimes and the agreement was reached between those two regimes. It was not an agreement between two parties. There were a number of good agreements that were able to provide the necessary legal framework of our project. But it seems that the slow pace and the lack of awareness of the immensity of the task made us encounter the present difficulties.

Today, the Yemeni people are being put to the test. I hope the present crisis will prompt us to forge ahead

toward unity and do our utmost to avert national division. However, we believe that while we work to avoid division, we should resist the logic of annexation. These two ideas dominated the mentality of the partitionists. We believed that we [words indistinct], while our brothers there [in the north] believed that this part [the south] should be annexed to the whole and that we had no will to develop a common vision or stance.

Certain phenomena now obstruct unity and democracy. We have to adopt a united national stance on these phenomena. Unity was achieved to make the homeland a place for everyone. We handled democracy according to our Yemeni traditions and, thank God, we proceeded to the beginning of democracy. However, we have to embark on an important step, that is, modernization, construction, and comprehensive development that will reflect on the citizens' lives and standards of living.

Hence, we believe that we are all facing a test of our faith and our adherence to the noble principles. We want to forge ahead, with the help and enthusiasm of all the good Yemeni people, to make progress under the present circumstances. However, we encounter certain phenomena that harm us and our unity as a great cultural undertaking. The terrorist phenomenon, for example, conflicts with a democratic approach. Violence conflicts with our approach to the peaceful transfer of authority. As Yemenis, we cannot let our country be turned into a center or source for exporting terrorism to any part of the Arab world or the international community in general. We have selected the democratic approach and the peaceful transfer of authority. We want to consolidate unity [word indistinct]. This requires many things.

We are encountering difficulties. By nature, we quickly proceeded to unification in response to the noble aspiration of all Yemenis and the Yemeni national movement. However, we welcomed unity to avoid a third war among the Yemenis. Regrettably, [words indistinct] fighting erupted twice, in 1972 and 1979, under the slogan of unity. We tried to avoid a third war by proceeding with unity, so that we could all be safe and to test the credibility of our quest. We went through a three- or four-year experience. I believe that we should be patient, listen, wait, and see what the comprehensive national dialogue might produce. The Socialist Party suggested 18 points for discussion. We also have certain visions of detailed programs and are prepared to address the various issues with a sense of responsibility and seek solutions in a fraternal and peaceful spirit. We do not want to jump ahead of events. Let us wait and see what the dialogue will produce, since we are at the beginning of the road. At the end of the 31st session of the Central Committee, we called for a national dialogue. If there is any deficiency in our performance as a coalition of three parties, there is no harm in inviting others to join efforts with us to look for a solution and a way out.

While we see the signs of a crisis in the present situation, we are confident that Yemenis are capable of adopting their own wise approach to coping with the situation. I

hope we will not take the same course pursued in some neighboring regions. I firmly believe that the land of Yemen is a good source for the necessary wisdom and optimism needed to cope with the situation.

[Salih] [passage omitted] Yemeni unity received unlimited popular Arab and international support. We are very happy with this support. Then, unity began to face some difficulties as a result of the change from two different systems to the new system of the Republic of Yemen. In this republic, agreement was reached to cancel most of the separate laws and institutions of the two Yemens. Agreement was also reached on ending the two social and economic policies and establishing a new united policy. There were some difficulties in this regard, augmented by the Gulf crisis when a large number of Yemeni expatriates returned home. This caused some problems for the Republic of Yemen. [passage omitted]

We believe that many brothers and friends see the continuation and preservation of Yemeni unity and democracy as a great benefit constituting a part of the stability and security of the region. The crisis started after the parliamentary elections on 27 April. However, it was not publicized. It escalated after that as a result of the elections. One of the political parties that participated in the government and the steps toward unity was surprised by the election results. It was hoping for more votes than it actually got, either for itself or the parties it coalesced with. It was taken aback by this result, but at the beginning it accepted the election results. The union leaders within that party were realistic and accepted the situation, but some elements within the party who opposed unity attempted to take advantage of this situation and cause an uproar by exploiting every security or social problem, and even a difference in opinion between the leaderships. These elements exploited such differences and presented them very negatively, regrettably. We were hoping things would not get that bad. It then developed into a real crisis.

We are now exerting efforts together with our colleagues in the YSP [Yemeni Socialist Party] and its leadership, as well as all the political forces and social figures, to contain this crisis. We believe that the best and most appropriate course to resolve this crisis is dialogue among all parties within the coalition to achieve positive results to avoid problems for Yemen.

[Jazuli] Therefore, there is a general admission that a crisis shook the unity structures in the Republic of Yemen. This admission did not come only from the makers of the unity, the president and vice president, but also from the leaders of political parties who participate in the coalition, that is, the Yemen Reform Group [YRG] and the General People's Congress [GPC], as well as the opposition, whether inside the parliament or outside it.

From this starting point, our delegation spoke to all political activists to try to deduce whether there is consensus on the presence of a crisis, which some call a

crisis of confidence between the president and the vice president, while others categorize as a crisis of political contradictions between the two major parties in the current government coalition, that is, the GPC and the YSP. [passage omitted]

[Salih] I believe that when the two Yemens united on 22 May, there were two government entities. The two entities were merged into one governmental entity. The share in the government was 50 percent for each party. When elections took place and the results were released, new parties were involved in the political scene. Some brothers in the YSP believed that we must continue the 50 percent share. This is what I believe caused the difference in opinion, that the YSP was used to being a basic partner in creating unity. It was surprised by the introduction of new parties, one of which was the YRG. They insisted on maintaining the status quo of 50 percent while we all declared that we would accept the election results and peaceful transfer of authority. Whether we won together or lost together, we would hand over to the other party. This is one of the major reasons.

[Jazuli] On the same note, Vice President 'Ali Salim al-Bid says that the unity march contained some cheating. He called for continuous action and a great deal of patience.

[Al-Bid] In our Arab traditions—and we Yemenis are Arabs—we believe that deception is clever. You are an Arab yourself and you know this fact. There are many examples of this. Perhaps there is no time for me to talk about these examples here. I could talk about every Arab country where something like this has happened at some point and where people believe that being deceptive means being shrewd. I am warning here that this is not clever. We are looking for new standards of cleverness between us, such as how to build the country now, how to develop, how to present the best for our life, preserve the good things, and get rid of everything that could hamper us from attaining our goals. [passage omitted]

[Jazuli] The Yemeni unity state failed to unite the ranks of the Yemeni Armed Forces. All that was done was to transfer three military camps from the south to the north. One of them is in Dhamar and the other two are on the outskirts of Sanaa. Also, three northern military camps were moved to the south; one of them is in Adir and the other in al-Salih. Undoubtedly, the crisis of confidence between the president and the vice president became more severe as a result of their differences regarding uniting the army. This becomes very clear in their discussions with us about this topic.

[Salih] In fact, this is one of the regrettable and painful issues. It is a part of the difficulties that led to not being able to fully unite the military institution. There isn't a single person in the YRG, the GPC, or any other institution who is not calling for uniting the Armed Forces. But there are certain secret forces that are trying to apply pressure toward disunity. Despite the fact that

we have made great progress toward uniting the Armed Forces of what used to be called the northern part and the southern part, some groups are trying to stall the implementation of the unity decisions. The cabinet, the presidential council, and the House of Representatives all want the Armed Forces united. But there are some forces still living in the pre-22 May atmosphere.

[Jarulit] There are some who say that the absence of confidence between you, the president of the Republic, and your deputy Mr. al-Bid is the major reason behind the Army's failure to unify.

[Salih] I believe that the problem is not between me and 'Ali Salim al-Bid. There is a party. The YSP has a leadership, as does the GPC. There are certain centers of power that are trying to apply pressure not to implement this decision because they will benefit from disunity. If the military and security installations unite, they will become one of the basic and major guarantees for unity. Thus, they will destroy any conspiracy that wishes to drive Yemen back to its past state.

[Jarulit] What is the alternative? Is there any hope for unifying the Army soon? And do your powers, in your capacity as the Yemeni president, allow you to work to unify the Army so that you could confirm that there is a definite desire to achieve unity?

[Salih] This desire does exist. But the cooperation of everyone and every institution is needed. The presidential council should be convinced of the unification of the military establishment on national and scientific foundations far from provincial, rural, and party fanaticisms. The Council of Ministers, the parliament, and the Defense Ministry should also cooperate. Some Army commanders should abandon, and they will certainly abandon, past thinking. [passage omitted]

[Jarulit] Some opposition circles, particularly in Sanaa, say that the executive apparatus is unable to implement the law regulating the carrying of arms, whereas in fact all the Yemeni people carry weapons. Some people say that instead of carrying weapons, why does the Yemeni citizen not carry tools for reconstructing and developing the homeland?

[Salih] Those who speak about this issue belong to the opposition and they themselves carry weapons. Every Yemeni, whether he belongs to the opposition or to the ruling party, carries weapons. But everyone speaks as if he is opposed to this phenomenon. While in fact every citizen carries weapons. It is true that we should carry instruments of construction instead, but that will happen once security and stability are achieved. When that happens, the Yemeni citizen will sell his weapons and buy water pumps, trucks, and all sorts of development and agricultural equipment. We cannot prevent citizens from carrying weapons by a presidential decree as long as security and stability are lacking.

[Jarulit] Mr. President, modern states are supposed to protect the citizen. The citizen does not carry weapons.

This could be a unique phenomenon in Yemen. Since you have merged the two states in one unified state, do you not think you should consolidate the apparatus of unity so that the citizen can be assured that there is a state and there is a government working to protect the citizen by collecting the weapons?

[Salih] Every country has its idiosyncrasies. Yemenis do not carry weapons to fight and carry out acts of violence. It is part of our tradition. Those who carry weapons do not necessarily mean that they intend to resort to violence. Violence is not widespread, despite the spread of weapons. Had it not been for values, ideals, and norms in Yemen, there would have been daily acts of violence. But the phenomenon of violence is generated by tribal differences over a border, land, and grazing land disputes. The state, the judiciary, and the courts intercede and adopt measures. The state is in control of everything. But the more jobs the citizens have, the fewer arms they will carry.

[Jarulit] Perhaps carrying weapons reinforces the occurrence of assassination. A wave of assassinations swept united Yemen recently. YSP officials affirmed that 150 of the party leaders, members, and supporters have been assassinated, including the nephew of Vice President 'Ali Salim al-Bid. This wave has reflected negatively on the ties between the General People's Congress and the YSP and triggered an exchange of criticism between them.

[Al-Bid] I did not accuse anyone. I do not know how terror has targeted the family. I have always denounced terror. Some leading officials and ministers as well as members of the YSP Central Committee and the former parliament speaker [words indistinct] were maimed and others martyred. We endured all this. We should not swallow the bait. We must forge ahead with our line, the line of unity and democracy. [passage omitted] I have not made any accusations against anyone in particular. That is left to the competent authorities, and I prefer not to go further into that, to avoid any misunderstandings.

I am against terrorism, and all nationalists and good people denounce terrorism. I do not want Yemen to become a land of terror. We have to do everything possible to curb and stifle terror because it is a very serious phenomenon that runs counter to our principles and honest competition. This phenomenon has exposed public security to danger and not just YSP security. The YSP is endeavoring on behalf of the Yemeni people to curb the ordeal. We do our best to contain this phenomenon. There is no special security outside the framework of the public security. We want to work for the security and stability of everyone. God willing, we will contain this phenomenon.

[Salih] We, particularly the leaderships of the two parties, knew in advance that there were forces that oppose unity and democracy. Those forces have pressed for violence, exploiting the difficult social and economic conditions of the citizen. They also attracted some sick-minded people with funds to make them shake

security and stability and to assassinate some YSP leaders to create clashes between the two parties. But we discovered this at an early stage. Some criminals were arrested.

[Jazulit] Have the accused been tried?

[Salih] Some were and some others are still on the run. They are at large in neighboring countries and others are at home, moving from one place to another. Security forces continue to pursue them to bring them to justice. [passage omitted]

[Jazulit] One of the acute problems forming part of the tacit conflict between the president and the vice president is caused by the fact that the Constitution does not specifically provide for a vice presidential post. Thus, the powers and authorities that the Constitution specifies are those of the Presidency Council and its chairman. Consequently, the vice president's criticism that the president is monopolizing power results from the fact that the unity agreement fails to specify the powers of each.

[Salih] Let us take the first part of the question first, the one pertaining to the Constitution and what provision it makes for the post of vice president. In the current Constitution, according to which the state's departments and institutions are being run, there is no provision for the post of vice president.

[Jazulit] Then what exactly is his position?

[Salih] He used to be vice president in the period (?following) the agreement. Under the current Constitution, there is no specific provision for a vice president but the constitutional amendments bill, already approved by the GPC, the YSP, and the YRG provide for a president of the Republic and a vice president, that is, if the amendments are carried through. There is one condition: The president and the vice president must belong to the party that wins a majority of seats in the elections. They must belong to the same party.

[Jazulit] Do these constitutional amendments specify the vice president's powers?

[Salih] According to the accepted convention everywhere, the vice president assists the president in carrying out the head of state's duties. The head of state delegates, at his discretion, some of his powers to the vice president. They cooperate, consult over the country's affairs, over everything. However, there is no provision that the president has such and such powers and the vice president has such and such powers. They are the same powers: The president has the right to delegate some of his powers to the vice president as he deems fit. The vice president also stands in for the president during the latter's absences, when he is abroad, or if he dies in office, or when the president's post becomes vacant for some reason. He can stand in for him until a new president is elected. [passage omitted]

[Al-Bid] I am a struggler of the Yemeni revolution and hope to see the day when circumstances will enable me to leave my official tasks. This is not my thinking or words alone; I do not want to be my own witness. Let time and the fundamental positions that define a person's true stance speak. I will never aspire to any post because more than once in the past I was on the point of being martyred. May God be praised, my colleagues were martyred but I lived on. I will remain loyal to the principles I shared with them. This is the important thing. [passage omitted]

[Jazulit] A crisis surfaced following the disagreement over the constitutional reforms. Salim Salih, the YSP assistant secretary general, remarked that the alternative is to have a federal system created political and legal controversy and criticisms about available alternatives.

[Salih] [Words indistinct] federalism can only be instituted between separate countries, or parts of the same country before their unification. [passage omitted]

[Jazulit] Yemen is a part of the Arabian Peninsula and its leaders are eager to consolidate peace and security following the tragedy of the Gulf War. Everyone agrees that the consolidation of unity in Yemen is generally a positive factor for the region and its prosperity. Yemeni-Gulf relations assume special importance particularly in the wake of the Gulf War. Is there room for improving these ties?

[Al-Bid] Regarding our ties with neighboring countries—Saudi Arabia and the Gulf Cooperation Council countries—we are trying to address our problems, including that of borders, on the basis that there should be no conqueror and no vanquished. Non-intervention in domestic affairs, consolidation of stability, enhancement of mutual interests, and the establishment of closer ties are the objectives we seek.

I hope that we will take good steps in the future. I think, and this is my personal opinion, that we, in the Peninsula and the Gulf, possibly make up one Arab geographical unit. We can think, not recklessly or sentimentally, of a form of special relations that we may all find acceptable. We should seek integration, solidarity, stability, and development. We should cooperate to catch up with modern times. We have to adopt new technologies and modernize our countries.

Our competition should not be geared toward the purchase of the latest types of weapons but the pursuit of modern science for peaceful purposes, for reconstruction. We should acquire the know-how [preceding word in English] available in today's world.

This is what I see. This is our responsible, and humble, view. We need one another. We are brothers. We are the residents of this one stretch of land. We should take a general view of our past. We are Arabs, Muslims, and neighbors. There are many things that we forget and, for

no good reason, we find ourselves arguing, disputing, creating a crisis, and strengthening our enemy's hand through our own weakness.

I hope that we would put our heads together and think matters over, without arrogance, posturing, or excessive emotion. We may be able to find a good arrangement, leading to a life of stability, legitimate competition, and reconstruction, God willing.

[Salih] We hope that the problem of Yemeni-Saudi borders will be solved with the same spirit, mechanism, trust, and method that was applied to the problem involving Yemen and sister Oman, and through dialogue, understanding, and trust among the leaders.

No solution will materialize unless trust is established between the leaderships in Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Once this trust is in place, it will trickle down to all the agencies, officials, technicians, and advisers involved. A positive exchange between us and our brothers in Oman brought us to where we are now.

[Jazulit] You spoke about the restoration of trust between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. Have you done anything to restore it?

[Salih] Our brothers in Saudi Arabia say that there is, unfortunately, procrastination on the part of the Yemeni leadership concerning the resolution of the borders issue. However, this is not the case.

In the past, before the restoration of Yemeni unity, there have been problems between the Yemenis themselves, the north and the south. Whenever one part of Yemen went to resolve the problem of borders with the Saudis, the other part tried to discredit it by raising a clamor about treason and the squandering of rights.

Once we made an effort to revive the unity of Yemen, I (went to meet) King Fahd in Haql al-Batin. It was an excellent meeting, one marked with frankness and lucidity. I told him that his support to the restoration of Yemeni unity will help us resolve the problem of borders, for there will no longer be mutual recriminations between the north and south over this issue, no accusations or one-upmanship.

The restoration of unity gives Yemen a single leadership. This enables us to meet our responsibilities toward the brothers in Saudi Arabia. With unity restored, we are able to shoulder our responsibilities. God willing, the issue of borders will be resolved in a cordial and fraternal way. King Fahd made a statement saying that he supports the unity of Yemen.

Unity took place. In the political speech that I made on the day we declared the Republic of Yemen, 22 May, I outlined the objectives of our foreign policy and spelled out the policy of the government, the first Government of the Republic of Yemen. The government told the parliament that it was prepared to resolve the issue of borders with its neighbors, chiefly Saudi Arabia.

There are no problems. A decision has been made by the leadership and it is completely convinced of it, as are all institutions, to solve the border problem with our neighbor Saudi Arabia. In the past we negotiated the issue on an individual basis. In the past there were complications regarding the border problem between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. In the past no one dared discuss the border problem. After achieving unity and establishing the legislative institutions, we worked with all leaderships, organization, and political parties and agreed that the border issue was important and must be resolved in an amicable and fraternal way. We agreed that in seeking to resolve this issue we must not create a crisis or strain our ties with Saudi Arabia. We agreed that we must reestablish and promote relations with our neighbor to help us resolve the border problem. The decision has been made, and we are ready to solve the border issue. It is not a question of maps but documents that must be debated by experts. We will then see how things work out. Both parties should be convinced of the need for bilateral negotiations to resolve the border issue. The political decision was made by the Presidential Council, the government, and all establishments. The border problem with neighboring Saudi Arabia must be resolved, but we must set the ground and ensure a positive climate, as we did when we solved our border problem with the Sultanate of Oman.

[Jazulit] Yemen is facing a crisis of confidence between the president and vice president. Perhaps the unity is not mature yet. The unity is in constant search of a solution guaranteeing its continuity and survival, particularly since the entire Yemeni people backed and supported unity. There can be no way out of the crisis without concessions and sacrifices by both parties. As we feel with the Yemeni people the negative and positive aspects of unity, the MBC team gathers that the Yemeni people are awaiting a historic decision similar to the decision on the proclamation of unity, a decision in which the president and the vice president will declare to the people the end of their differences, the return of unity to its normal course, and the start of the battle of construction. Yemen is in dire need of reconstruction and cementing ties of cooperation and peace in the Arabian Peninsula.

#### Salim Salih Comments on Violence, Dialogue

PM1012105893 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 9 Dec 93 pp1, 4

[Report by Iqbal 'Ali 'Abdallah: "Salim Salih Warns Against a Situation That Threatens Yemeni Unity"]

[Text] Aden—Salim Salih Muhammad, Presidential Council member and assistant secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), emphasized yesterday that "Yemen is in an unevitable position and its economic situation is one of the most difficult." That, he said, "calls for a contribution by the public to the search for radical solutions to all the problems which are almost destroying the homeland and its unity."

In a speech he made yesterday in Aden, he said that "silence about what is going on now does not constitute a gain or victory for anyone when the survival of the homeland is at stake." He stressed that "dialogue, recognition of opinions and counteropinions, and respect for the rights of others to participate would maintain political and social balance in the country and create the right atmosphere for containing any crisis."

Salim Salih was speaking at the eulogy ceremony for student Kamil al-Hamid, nephew of 'Ali Salim al-Bid, Presidential Council deputy chairman and YSP secretary general, who was assassinated at dawn on 29 October in an assassination attempt targeting al-Bid's two sons Na'if and Yanuf.

In his speech, made in the presence of al-Bid and a number of YSP leaders and members, Salim Salih affirmed that "violence, terrorism, and murder are the cheapest method used by those who cannot face life's hardships, and it is a failed method. He said that "whoever even dreams that the course of terrorism and inflicting punishment on members of the public would bring the lofty figures to their knees or shake the earth under firm feet, should forget that dream." [quotation marks as published] He also said: "When we created this great homeland on 22 May 1990 we were aspiring to building a state and civil institutions without any haughtiness or arrogant floating of the law. We thought that our noble aims and goodwill would ease problems and help unravel the complexities but we came into collision with a mentality that found it too much for others even to breathe and we discovered that there were forces which sought to erase the struggle and history of others with fabrications, terrorism, and physical liquidation even if that meant blotting out history to conceal the truth." He added that "the party is not unable to retaliate but would rather not be dragged onto that failed road that would only bring tragedies to the people and the homeland." He urged everyone to "rise to the level of this difficult situation and to stand against ruinous behavior." In conclusion, he said that "the YSP is proud that it was and still is the knight of courageous initiatives and has, in the process, sacrificed some of its best sons and fighters, never failing to sacrifice for the homeland."

Observers believe that Salim Salih's speech reflects the YSP's determination to insist on its demands despite the acceptance by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, who is also the leader of the General People's Congress [GPC] (the main party in the coalition) of the YSP's 18 points for resolving the crisis. It was learned from YSP sources that "the party's Political Bureau is still in session in Aden under al-Bid to discuss the wording of the 18 points to be submitted to the National Dialogue Committee."

#### YSP Political Bureau Discusses Dialogue

JN1012092093 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network  
in Arabic 0430 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Text] The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] held a periodic

meeting under brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, on Wednesday and Thursday, 8-9 December.

During this meeting, the Political Bureau examined several political issues pertaining to current developments, foremost among which was the progress of the national dialogue, in which the parties to the coalition government, as well as other political and social forces are participating. The Political Bureau expressed satisfaction with the expansion of the dialogue being conducted by various political forces, saying that this reflects the concern of all for finding drastic solutions to the recurrent crises that have plagued the country. Such solutions must help build a unified state, which is the great mission that should be accomplished by unity-orientated forces at present, the YSP Political Bureau noted.

The YSP Political Bureau affirmed its adherence to dialogue, as well as its full support for all the efforts aimed at making it achieve the desired objectives. Meanwhile, it announced the YSP's willingness to do everything in its power to cooperate with these forces to render the dialogue a success, particularly since the pursuit of this dialogue is the proper way to agree on a national formula that would ensure the introduction of real reforms to promote unity and enhance the democratic course.

Moreover, the Political Bureau cautioned against dangers that could obstruct the dialogue, noting that some tactics might derail them. It affirmed the importance of creating the climates and atmospheres which could reflect, in practical terms, the credibility of all parties with regard to the desire to render this national dialogue a success.

At this meeting, the Political Bureau also addressed at length the 18 points submitted by the YSP as a basis for dialogue with its interlocutors. In this context, the Political Bureau welcomed the recent statements made by brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council and secretary general of the General People's Congress [GPC], in which he announced the GPC's acceptance of the 18 YSP points.

The Political Bureau believes that the acceptance of these points by the GPC, its partner in the successful effort to achieve unity, is an important step that would make it possible for the national dialogue to achieve its national objectives. Moreover, this acceptance would also help identify mechanisms, and set timetables for the implementation of the agreement that the dialogue could produce. This would be in harmony with our people's ambitions and aspirations regarding the building of a unified state, one that would uphold law and order, the Political Bureau maintained.

The YSP Political Bureau also addressed organizational and internal issues and adopted the relevant decisions and measures thereon.

**Saddam Pardons, Releases 3 Jailed Britons***NC0912191293 Paris AFP in English 1836 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[By Farouk Choukri]

[Excerpt] Baghdad, Dec 9 (AFP)—President Saddam Husayn on Thursday [9 December] released three Britons serving jail terms of up to 10 years for illegal entry into Iraq, after a mercy mission by former British prime minister Sir Edward Heath.

Saddam announced a pardon of Simon Dunn, Paul Ride and Michael Wainwright in a meeting with Sir Edward and ordered their release from Abu Gharib prison, 30 kilometres (20 miles) west of Baghdad, the Iraqi News Agency said.

Their Iraqi lawyer, Khalid Girgis, told AFP that the Britons were "out of prison" and he had spoken to them on the telephone. But the lawyer did not give their whereabouts.

The released Britons were to travel Friday to Amman together with Sir Edward, from where they would fly back to London, he said.

The former premier arrived in Baghdad on Wednesday on a mission to free the Britons, serving prison terms of between seven and 10 years. He also met Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz.

In London, a Foreign Office spokesman said that "the message from Sir Edward's party to our staff in Amman was 'all has gone well' ... We are obviously pleased that Sir Edward's mission has worked.

"But we will not count our chickens until the party has reached Amman," the only way out of sanctions-hit Iraq. [passage omitted]

**UK's Heath Expresses Appreciation***JN0912211693 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 2100 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Edward Heath, former British prime minister and member of the British Parliament, has expressed his great appreciation and gratitude for leader President Saddam Husayn's order to pardon and release three Britons serving jail terms in Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Heath said he will leave Baghdad, [word indistinct] the three Britons for Amman and then for London.

On his meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz, the former British prime minister said: We discussed various issues in the region, including British-Iraqi relations. He expressed hope that Iraq's decision to pardon and release the three Britons will bring Iraqi-British views closer.

On Iraq's implementation of UN resolutions, Heath said: I hope this will lead to a positive stand by the Security Council. He affirmed that he will convey his

impressions about his visit to Iraq and the Iraqi people's suffering because of the embargo.

**Britons Arrive at Jordan Border***JN1012111293 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1035 GMT 10 Dec 93*

[Text] The three Britons released by Iraqi authorities yesterday, after mediations by former British Prime Minister Edward Heath, arrived at the Jordanian border area of al-Karamah [name as heard] this morning. The three Britons, accompanied by Mr. Heath, left Baghdad in an Iraqi Air Force helicopter.

In Brussels, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd welcomed the Iraqi authorities' release of the three Britons, noting that the British Government did not strike any deals with the Baghdad Government for the sake of releasing the three Britons.

Hurd added that Britain will not change its policy toward Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

**Officers Reportedly Executed After Failed Coup Attempt***NC0912174493 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Sources close to Saddam's regime have said that after the coup attempt against him, the tyrant executed officers including Staff Major General Mundhir 'Abd-al-Rahman, director of moral guidance at the regime's Defense Ministry; Staff Major General Ghanim (Dha-far); and Staff Brigadier General Pilot Husayn Mulla Khadir, commander of the Firnas Air Base in Mosul. The regime also dismissed Tariq 'Abd-al-Rahman as a manager at the central markets because he is a brother of Major General Mundhir 'Abd-al-Rahman. The regime's oppressive services kidnapped Captain Jawad Kazim from his house in al-'Amiriyah. There has been no trace of him.

Elsewhere, tyrant Saddam decided to abolish all corps commands and keep division commands, which include two Republican Guards divisions, one to protect him in Baghdad; the fourth and fifth divisions in Mosul; the first division in Karkuk; and Division 22 in Saddam Dam. The tyrant informed officers of divisions and military wings of his decision to retire them.

**Opposition Radio Speculates on Target of Baghdad Blast***NC0912180993 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Reports speak of a major blast caused by a booby-trapped vehicle in a Baghdad market, resulting in several casualties and damage to shops and buildings

nearby. Saddam's regime announced the incident, but, as usual, linked it with foreign powers and their so-called domestic agents.

Political sources speculate that the explosion targeted one of the regime's security agencies or some suppression apparatus. It was a big explosion causing conspicuous damage, so the regime could not help but admit it, although it manipulated the news to mislead the public.

These political sources add that explosions in Baghdad are now routine and are obviously directed against the regime's personnel, its organs of suppression, security agencies, party offices, and information departments. They note that the regime is using its security, political, and information resources to cover up and divert attention from these incidents.

Some of these explosions are connected with the conflict among the various wings of the ruling family or are linked with political objectives that the regime is trying to achieve. The issue seems to be too big to ignore. So, the Ba'thist regime resorts to leveling accusations in a manner that serves its interests. All these are possibilities. If the situation becomes clearer, proof might be forthcoming.

To judge objectively, the regime demonstrates no consideration for the Iraqi people's interests, territorial integrity, unity, or independence. It is a regime built on criminal gang mentality and guided by principles of banditry.

A regime that sacrificed hundreds of thousands of Iraqis in its first and second wars will not lack the means to create new victims. The regime's suppressive policy, which left tens of thousands of our people dead, is further proof of its hostile nature and willingness to carry out any operation that serves its aggressive political objectives.

If the operation were directed against security targets or some of the regime's hostile departments, it would be natural to say it was the product of a popular wish.

Iraq watchers can distinguish between operations carried out by the regime for political aims, as happened during Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif's visit to Baghdad, and the struggler operations carried out by Iraqi opposition groups or by the sons of the Iraqi nation, which have a distinct character.

### Attacks Against Regime Forces in November Reported

NC0912181093 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] An unidentified gunman launched an RPG attack on one of the Saddam regime's gunboats in the Shatt al-'Arab waterway. A source said the gunman ambushed the gunboat and fired one RPG-7 as it approached, killing five crew members. The boat fired back, but the attacker escaped leaving an RPG-7 launcher at the scene.

At 2115 on 23 November, our heroic mujahidin attacked the forces of tyrant Saddam at the earthen dam in (al-Naqqarah), al-'Amarah Governorate. Our sources in Iraq said the mujahidin controlled the dam, captured two usable tanks, and destroyed several personnel positions. Eight regime mercenaries were killed, including Lieutenant Jasim Farhan Radi. The mujahidin also captured three Kalashnikov rifles and an RPG-7 launcher.

Earlier, the mujahidin of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq launched a lightning attack against the command of the First Regiment of Brigade 47 and the Second Regiment of Brigade 45, both affiliated with the Saddamite 11th Division, on the Euphrates Dam in al-Basrah Governorate. The mujahidin inflicted heavy losses among the regime mercenaries. Many mercenaries were killed or wounded and the mujahidin captured an SPG-9, an 82-mm mortar, an RPK machine gun, and a Kalashnikov rifle.

### Further Attacks Noted

NC0912174393 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1430 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] An unknown woman last week stabbed an official in the so-called Iraq Women's Union in a union office in al-'Azamiyah in Baghdad. News sources said the attacker dragged the official to a room claiming she wanted to talk with her. There, she stabbed the official with a sharp knife, killing her instantly. The attacker calmly left. The motive for the attack is not known. Dozens of union members were arrested for investigation.

Elsewhere, a youth in the al-Fadl suburb in Baghdad on Sunday [12 December] attacked a cafe frequented by regime security and party agents. Sources of the tyrant Saddam admitted this attack saying the young man threw an incendiary bomb at the cafe. Five mercenaries were seriously hurt in the explosion. The sources said a security agent in the cafe fired several shots at the attacker, but missed. Two agents chased him, but he escaped. Scores of agents besieged the region to capture the attacker, but failed.

**'Positive View' Taken of Clinton-al-Asad Meeting**  
*TA0912180593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1605  
 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Report by political correspondent Shlomo Raz]

[Excerpt] The Washington talks have been practically resumed, but tonight Prime Minister Rabin will be personally informed by Warren Christopher of the official statement issued in Damascus regarding the resumption of the talks on all four tracks at the end of January or the beginning of February.

Beyond the resumption of talks, Jerusalem political sources take a positive view of the upcoming meeting between President Clinton and President al-Asad. This encounter, in addition to the Syrian gestures of assistance in the search for the MIA's and the issuance of exit visas to Jews, improve the atmosphere, it is being said in Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

**Rabin Spokesman 'Pleased' With Meeting**

*NC0912214193 Paris AFP in English 2123 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Tel Aviv, Dec 9 (AFP)—Israel is pleased with the announcement of next month's summit between the U.S. and Syrian presidents to push forward the Middle East peace process, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's spokesman said Thursday [9 December].

"We can only be pleased with such a meeting to push forward the peace process," Gad Ben Ari told AFP following a meeting here between Rabin and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

He also described the resumption of bilateral talks between Israel and Syria, Jordan and Lebanon as "positive."

Christopher announced earlier in Damascus that President Bill Clinton and his Syrian counterpart Hafiz al-Asad would meet in Geneva in mid-January.

The secretary of state also said Arab-Israeli bilateral peace talks would resume in Washington in late January or early February, after a break of more than four months.

"Mr. Rabin and Mr. Christopher also discussed the ongoing negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians which will be tackled Friday by the secretary of state and PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis," Ben Ari said.

The Palestine Liberation Organization said Rabin was to meet Sunday in Cairo with 'Arafat, on the eve of the scheduled start of an Israeli army withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho.

Ben Ari said: "We are working on a meeting but it is not yet confirmed."

Elsewhere, some 200 right-wing opposition members demonstrated late Thursday in front of the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem to protest any withdrawal from the Golan Heights, which Israel seized in 1967 and annexed in 1981, police said.

Talks between Israel and Syria have stalled over the Golan issue. Israel wants a Syrian commitment of total peace, including the opening of embassies, in exchange for a military withdrawal from the strategic plateau.

Syria has called for a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan before it negotiates a peace treaty.

**Peres To Go to U.S. in Late Jan**

*TA1012054093 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500  
 GMT 10 Dec 93*

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will go to Washington at the end of January, on the eve of the resumption of the peace talks. Qol Yisra'el's Washington correspondent says the Americans hope that the Syrian foreign minister, Faruq al-Shar', will also come to Washington in order to raise the level of the peace talks. [passage omitted]

**Peres Holds News Conference on Return From Granada**

*TA1012083493 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600  
 GMT 10 Dec 93*

[News conference by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres upon his return from Granada at Ben-Gurion Airport—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Peres] ...We will have to implement extreme measures, because we cannot allow several dozen people to murder the peace process. In my opinion, there are two main issues: One, to finalize things as soon as possible. Yesterday I explained to 'Arafat that nobody will gain anything by a delay. The difficult decisions must be taken now and not be put off. Two, we must not allow an extremist group like Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] to run things. This would be a terrible mistake. All those who are delaying things, thereby creating a temporal vacuum, are creating an opportunity for activity against the peace process. I believe the differences of opinion can be overcome despite all the difficulties. There is no real alternative.

I want to say that there is full coordination between Israel and the United States. The United States is involved on various levels. The Americans understand they should not get involved in the Palestinian issue because that could result in renewed bargaining, which is unnecessary because the negotiations are well under way and there is an agreement that must be adhered to. The United States believes it may be possible to reactivate the Syrian track. They are welcome to try. We are working together on the Jordanian issue. The United States should get more involved in the multilateral talks,

as Europe is. We have to operate in an organized, energetic, and expeditious manner in all these four spheres.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Peres, does 'Arafat see things as you do?

[Peres] There is a Chinese proverb that says that if you want to learn to paint, you must start during winter rather than in springtime, because that is when the trees are barren and there are no flowers. That is the time you can see the tree as it really is. I tried to present 'Arafat with a true picture of the wintry truth, to depict things as they really are, without any embellishments. I told him I am doing this as a man who is interested in peace. I wanted him to know that a delay is an invitation to chaos. What does Hamas amount to? No more than several dozen armed men, but it is not difficult to murder a lone person entering a shop.

[Unidentified correspondent] How does 'Arafat view things?

[Peres] I think I presented him with a very comprehensive picture of the situation. He is also aware of the fact that his own situation is difficult. We cannot expect 'Arafat to become an Israeli public relations officer. 'Arafat knows that there are quite a few people in the Arab world who are waiting to see him fail. He is aware of the internal opposition facing him. He knows he is racing against time. I told him, however, that there is absolutely no chance of an Israeli compromise on security issues.

[Israel Television's political correspondent Gadi Sukenik] Meanwhile, it has been decided to delay the beginning of the agreement's implementation.

[Peres] Even if there is a delay, we will do everything possible to make it insignificant. I do not believe anybody is deliberately trying to cause a delay. From this viewpoint, I am very happy I had the opportunity to present the naked truth as seen by a man who is interested in the peace process.

[Qol Yisra'el's political correspondent Shlomo Raz] You just spoke with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher here at Ben-Gurion Airport. Is Israel interested in any U.S. pressure on the PLO?

[Peres] No. We are interested in comparing notes. I was briefed by the secretary about his talks in Damascus and in Cairo. We want Egypt to continue playing a central role. We do not want to push it to the sidelines. I was also briefed by him about his talks in Damascus. I, in turn, briefed him on my meeting with 'Arafat.

[Raz] Is the peace process endangered by the profound gaps between the sides?

[Peres] Look, there are actually two processes here: One is the process of negotiations; the other is an emotional process. At this stage, the emotions are heated, mainly as a result of the fact that most of the spokesmen who are

being heard belong to Gush Emunim and the settlements. We are conducting rational negotiations, but there are ongoing attempts to shift them to an emotional level. This must be prevented; the negotiations must remain on a sober and responsible level. Israel will not compromise on security issues, but at the same time it will not forfeit the possibility of reaching an agreement with the Palestinians.

[IDF Radio's Udi Segal] Mr. Peres, will Israel make at least a symbolic gesture on 13 December?

[Peres] I cannot answer this question. I believe that on that day we will all want to have a sense of the beginning of the process. It does not have to end on that date, merely to begin. I do not know if we can find such gestures. I only know we are all interested in adhering to the timetable. Even if there is a delay, it will be insignificant.

[Segal] A delay of several days?

[Peres] I do not want to predict.

#### **Sheves, Beilin Deny POST Report on Withdrawal Plan**

*TA1012080493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0505 GMT 10 Dec 93*

[Telephone interview with Shim'on Sheves, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, by Me'ir Einstein—live]

[Text] [Einstein] Mr. Sheves, what is your reaction to Steve Rodan's report in THE JERUSALEM POST this morning [that Israel is currently working out the draft of a permanent agreement leading to a return to the 1967 borders]?

[Sheves] Look, earlier this morning you reported on this article, which is false from beginning to end, without giving anyone from the Prime Minister's Office or any of the prime minister's spokesmen the opportunity to react.

[Einstein] We are giving you that opportunity now.

[Sheves] The article is complete nonsense; it is totally fallacious, malicious, and spiteful. It does not contain even one grain of truth. No discussions or work has ever been held in relation to such a plan. My name is also included in the article, and I do not know what it is doing there. The report has nothing to do with the truth. I am very surprised at the correspondent and the newspaper, and even at Qol Yisra'el, which did not seek a reaction to such a report.

[Einstein] Did you hear what THE JERUSALEM POST's Steve Rodan told us earlier this morning?

[Sheves] I heard it and was shocked by it.

[Einstein] He said that the plan was prepared in Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin's office. Are you sure that

the Foreign Ministry has no such plan, or are you merely saying that the Prime Minister's Office never discussed such a plan?

[Sheves] I do not know exactly what is happening in every ministry. I do know, however, that there are official Israeli Government plans. Israel is represented by the prime minister, the foreign minister, and the other ministers. The Israeli Government's decisions are explicit; we are now dealing with the interim stage and the implementation of the document of principles, which was signed in Washington on 13 September. We are not dealing with anything else at the present time. There has never been any official or unofficial Israeli Government plan such as described by Steve Rodan.

[Einstein] Was there never any discussion on a draft of such a plan?

[Sheves] Absolutely not.

[Einstein] Thank you very much, Shim'on Sheves.

[Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0730 GMT on 10 December adds: "Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin this morning totally denied the contents of the report in THE JERUSALEM POST, according to which Israel is currently working out the draft of a permanent agreement leading to a return to the 1967 borders."]

#### **Likud Group Leaves for Cairo for Talks With PLO**

TA1012123693 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Dec 93  
p 5

[Report by Muhammad Khalayla]

[Text] Three Likud members, including Herzl Maqov and Sulayman Diyab, left for talks with PLO officials in Cairo yesterday. Before their departure, they were briefed by Knesset Member David Magen.

The three will meet with Sa'id Kamal, the PLO's representative in Cairo. Today they will meet with Jordan's ambassador to Egypt and will convey a personal message from Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu to King Husayn.

The three, who will remain in Egypt until next Tuesday [14 December], will hold working meetings on various political issues related to the peace process and the agreement of principles with the PLO. Senior PLO officials will arrive from Tunis especially for these meetings.

A source close to the delegation said the trip is related to the struggle within the Likud over ending the opposition to the agreement of principles and its implementation.

#### **Likud Concerned Over 'Radical' Protest**

TA0912175993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1605 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Report by party affairs correspondent Shmu'el Tal]

[Text] The Likud leaders are concerned about the violent and radical nature of the recent antigovernment protest activities. Today criticism was leveled mainly at an event in which effigies and other objects were burned.

The decision to allocate funds for a different public relations [PR] campaign was made despite the Likud's difficult financial situation. Under today's decision, a public relations command was established to be headed by a senior Likud figure who has acquired experience in the field.

Meeting at Metzudat Ze'ev today, party institutions heads decided that as of now, only formal party figures will feature prominently at protest activities to be launched by the new PR command. Several such activities were planned at today's meeting, and next Wednesday, the Likud Bureau will hold an emergency meeting to discuss the new PR drive.

Tomorrow rallies will be held at 50 junctions throughout the country. The PR command will organize a bicycle hike to be named From Palestine to the Sea; it will start out in the Kafr Qasim Junction and wind up near the prime minister's residence. Tomorrow the command will begin advertising in newspapers and purchase billboards. The PR will focus on internal security problems.

#### **Right Wing Demonstrates Near U.S. Consulate, Elsewhere**

TA0912191693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Some 200 right-wing supporters, who arrived in a convoy from Rishon Leziyyon in a show of support for the Golan inhabitants, are now staging a demonstration near the U.S. Consulate in West Jerusalem.

Our correspondent Aviv Bushinsky reports that other right-wing demonstrations protesting the government policy are being staged near Knesset Member Arye Der'i's home in Jerusalem's Har-Nof neighborhood, at the Bar Ilan University junction, and at the Qastina Junction.

#### **Settler Stabbed in 'Terrorist Attack' in Gaza Strip**

TA1012052493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Text] In the Gaza Strip, a resident of Moshav Gan Or was this morning stabbed in a terrorist attack. He is in moderate condition. Security forces are searching for the attacker.

#### **Arab Villagers Riot**

TA1012152193 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Text] Three Arabs from the village of Tarqumiyah near Hebron were killed this afternoon when gunfire was directed at their car from a passing vehicle near the neighboring village of Bayt Awla. An Arab resident told

the security forces that the shots had come from an Israeli car. The hospital in Hebron dispatched ambulances to Tarqumiyah to collect the bodies, but the medical staff were told that the bodies had been snatched. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the security forces have left for the scene in order to investigate the circumstances of the incident. Villagers are currently rioting in Bayt Awla and Tarqumiyah. Our correspondent received an anonymous phone call from a man calling himself Ronen. The man said that the three Arabs had been murdered in retaliation for the murder of Mordekhay and Shalom Lapid at Giva't Haharshina junction several days ago. [passage omitted]

A 25-year-old man from Nabulus was shot and seriously wounded by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] gunfire while the soldiers were dispersing a riot in the town. A Magen David Adom ambulance took him to Kefar Sava's Me'ir Hospital. In another incident in Nabulus, an IDF soldier was lightly injured in the head by a stone. An makeshift explosive charge went off this morning in Gaza city near an IDF outpost. There were no casualties.

#### **New Decree Restricts Arab Traffic on Gaza Bypass Road**

TA1012123293 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Dec 93 p 4

[Report by David Regev]

[Text] A new decree banning Arab trucks from driving on the Gaza bypass road in the morning and afternoon was issued in recent days by the commander of IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops in the Gaza Strip following attempts to use trucks to stage terrorist attacks on this road.

According to the new decree, Arab trucks, including those belonging to the Gaza Municipality, will not be allowed to drive on the Gaza bypass road between 0700 and 1000 and between 1400 and 1600. During those hours, the road is used by Israel Police and Civil Administration vehicles to drive employees to and from work.

#### **Poll Gauges Settlers' Cooperation With Palestinian Police**

TA1012123493 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 10 Dec 93 p 1

[Public opinion poll conducted by the Dahaf Institute directed by Dr. Mina Tzemah]

[Text] Question: If approached by Palestinian policemen within the boundaries of the autonomy, how will you behave? Will you cooperate or will you refuse to cooperate with them?

Will cooperate—39 percent; will refuse to cooperate and will use force (not firearms) to resist arrest—32 percent; will refuse to cooperate and will resist arrest by using firearms—17 percent; did not reply—12 percent.

The poll was conducted on Tuesday and Wednesday this week on 418 respondents who constitute a representative sample of the adult Jewish population beyond the Green Line (excluding Ma'ale Adumim). The maximum margin of error is 4 percent.

#### **State Companies Call 1-Day Strike To Protest Privatization**

TA0912062593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0500 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Excerpt] We open with the one-day strike called by state companies due to start now. As Steve Linde reports, the strike called to protest the government's privatization policy will paralyze much of the public sector:

[Begin recording] The unions, representing some 100,000 workers in more than 30 state companies, decided to go ahead with their warning strike after negotiations with the Treasury broke down again at about midnight. Among those affected by the strike will be the Bezeq telephone company, the electricity and water companies, Israel's air force and military industries, and the Israel Broadcasting Authority radio and television. Workers at Israel Railways are defying restraining orders and going ahead with the strike, although the first trains this morning did leave on schedule. It is still unclear whether workers at the Ports Authority, El Al, and the Postal Authority will respect court orders forbidding them to strike. The unions are demanding that the government include them in privatization plans, which they say are resulting in mass dismissals and wage erosion. [passage omitted] [end recording]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0600 GMT on 9 December adds that "Ben-Gurion Airport was closed down for arrivals and departures 30 minutes ago as part of the strike of government companies."]

**King Reportedly Opposes PLO Control of Bridges**

TA0812203593 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1  
Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] King Husayn explained in discreet contacts held over the past few days that he remains opposed to handing over control over the Jordan bridges to the PLO. Our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari reports that the Jordanians have implied that if Israel reneges on its refusal to hand the border crossing points over to the Palestinians, the Amman government may encumber movement across the bridges.

Our correspondent further reports that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat was advised by Secretary of State Christopher that he has to complete the reappointment of the territories development council within a week, and that if he fails to do so, the supporting states slated to convene on 16 December will not transfer any funds whatsoever to him.

**Prince Hasan Welcomes Palestinian Arrivals**

JN0812210793 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1700  
GMT 8 Dec 93

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan has visited the King Husayn Bridge during which he received citizens from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip on their way to visit Jordan. The crown prince also inspected the security centers and urged the employees to do all possible measures to facilitate the crossing of our brothers from the occupied territories.

Prince Hasan, who is accompanied on the tour by the chairman of the Mitsubishi company, also visited the Potash company. The crown prince's visit was a part of a tour to the southern region.

**Writer Denounces Call for Arab-Israeli Cultural Dialogue**

JN0712115093 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 6 Dec  
93 p 28

[Text] Fakhri Qa'war, secretary general of the General Federation of Arab Intellectuals and Writers, has called on all honest Arabs and those who believe in full Palestinian rights to confront what Israeli television announced concerning an Israeli-Arab cultural dialogue to be held in the Spanish city of Granada.

Qa'war described this dialogue as an ominous move toward the normalization of relations with the Zionist entity.

**Al-Majali Views Parliament Debate, Leaves for Japan**

JN0912212793 Amman Jordan Television Network in  
English 2000 GMT 9 Dec 93

[From the "News at Ten"]

[Text] Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali said the government had formed a committee to deal with parliamentary affairs. He said his Cabinet will work towards

achieving peace in the Middle East and securing the rights of Jordan. In an interview with the "News at Ten", the prime minister described the past four days of parliamentary debate ahead of a vote of confidence as a great and useful experience.

[Begin recording] [Al-Majali] It was a great experience. Democracy is the only thing which we have to keep forever, because it is now part of us and those who criticized democracy that it has faults, yes, everything in the world has faults, but the only way to treat the fault of democracy is by having more democracy and this is the only way to do it. And, we have today in the cabinet formed a committee for all the parliamentary affairs so they can respond to any request and to prepare all the work which has to go to parliament and I hope that I will not overwork them, but I am sure there is a lot of showers of new legislation to go to parliament.

[Correspondent Maha al-Sha'ir] What's the ultimate goal of your government to achieve?

[Al-Majali] Well, to achieve peace, to achieve the best of standard of living for this country, to get our rights in our water, to get back our land, to solve the refugee problem, which is—we are—the highest capita country of refugees, and to have our country secure from any interference from anywhere. [end recording]

The prime minister left for Japan tonight. Before leaving Amman, he told the "News at Ten" that his visit will include meetings with Emperor Akihito, the prime minister, and the foreign and finance ministers. He said that as a member of the UN University Council, he will present a new project called the Potential Leadership Institute, to be opened in Amman under the UN flag.

**House Vote of Confidence Results Published**

JN0912161193 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 9 Dec 93 p 34

[Results of the 8 December vote of confidence by the House of Representative in Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali's government]

[Text] The following 41 deputies voted for: Jamal al-Khurayshah, Muhammad 'Addub al-Zabn, Salim al-Zawayidah, 'Abdallah Akhu-Irshaydah, Muhammad al-Nijadat, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Baqi Jammu, Muhammad Abu-'Alim, Dr. Ratib al-Sa'ud, Hammad Abu-Jamus, Muhammad al-Dhuwayb, Muhammad al-Hunayti, Khalid 'Abd-al-Nabi al-'Ajarimah, Miflih al-Lawzi, 'Abd-al-Hafiz al-Shakhanibah, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid al-Aqtash, Samih al-Farah, 'Abd-al-Majid al-'Azzam, Dr. 'Arif al-Batayinah, Dr. Nadir Abu-al-Sha'r, Miflih al-Ruhaymi, Dr. Ahmad al-Qudat, Sa'd Hayil al-Surur, Nawwaf al-Qadi, Fayyad Jarrar, Taha al-Hababibah, Farah al-Rabadi, Fawwaz al-Zu'bi, Ibrahim Samarah, Hatim al-Ghizawi, Nadir al-Zuhayrat, 'Ali al-Shatti, Dr. Hashim al-Dabbas, Dr. 'Abdallah al-Nusur, Samir Qa'war, Dr. Fawzi al-Tu'aymah, Mansur Bin-Tarif,

Hani al-Hijazin, Dr. 'Awad Khulayfat, 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti, Tawfiq Kurayshan, and 'Abd-Hadi al-Majali.

The following 29 deputies voted against: 'Abd-al-'Aziz Jabr, 'Abd-al-Mun'im Abu-Zant, Hamzah Mansur, Dr. Ibrahim Zayd al-Kilani, 'Ali Abu-al-Raghib, Tujan Faysal, Khalil Haddadin, Dr. Hammam Sa'id, Ahmad al-Kawfahi, Falihi Sha'watah, 'Abd-al-Ra'uf al-Rawabidah, Dr. 'Abd-al-Razzaq Tubayshat, 'Abd-al-Rahim al-'Ukur, Sulayman al-Sa'd, Dayfallah al-Mumani, Dr. Muhammad 'Uwaydah, Dr. Mustafa Shunaykat, Mahum Huwaymil, Ahmad al-Kasasibah, Jamil al-'Ushush, Samir Habashinah, Badr al-Rabadi, Dr. Muhammad al-Hajj, Dhib Anis, Bassam Haddadin, 'Abd-al-Karim al-Dughmi, Muhammad al-Dawudiyah, 'Abdallah al-'Akayilah, and Dr. Bassam al-'Umush.

The following 9 deputies abstained: Tahir al-Masri, Anwar al-Hadid, 'Abd-Musa al-Nahar, Munir Subar, Dr. Salih Irshaydat, Ibrahim Shihdah, Talal 'Ubaydat, Jamal al-Sarayirah, and Dr. Nazih al-'Ammarin.

Deputy Dhib 'Abdallah Khattab did not attend.

#### Prime Minister Receives World Bank Official

JN0912151493 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1200 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali has received visiting director general of the World Bank, Mr. (Itlaq Rasman Uglo), and his accompanying delegation.

The prime minister reviewed social and economic developments in Jordan and government measures to provide an appropriate atmosphere for investment. Dr. al-Majali said Jordan stressed in its economic correction program on the social dimension. [sentence as heard] He noted that international institutions should support the country's development efforts and contribute to lessening the burden of debts.

On his part, Mr. (Uglo) voiced the World Bank's appreciation of Jordan's efforts to develop its economic programs. He said the World Bank in cooperation with international institutions concerned will back these efforts to help overcome the economic problems of Jordan which plays a vital role in achieving stability in the region.

#### Bank Official Comments

JN0912193093 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] World Bank director general (Itlaq Rasman Uglo) has emphasized the bank's recognition of Jordan's drive to develop its economic programs. Jordan's case in this respect, he said, has become a conspicuous example.

[Begin (Uglo) recording, in English] [Words indistinct] first visit after the government has taken its vote of confidence in forming [word indistinct] that Jordan after

many years. We had in a sense a tour d'horizon of the issues which the government is facing in terms of economic policies to restore growth and provide it in a way where all segments of society will benefit from it. It has been a very friendly visit, a useful chat for me, because the prime minister was generous enough with his time in explaining the government's policy and the areas of priority and emphasis. We, at the World Bank, have had distinguished relations with Jordan all these many years and have a very active program. Of course, we want to enhance this program in the direction of this new government's priorities, recognizing that Jordan is not only a good, successful place for development efforts but also is a very important country in the prosperity and peace of this region. [end recording]

#### Prosecutor Presents Case Against Defendants in Mu'tah Trial

JN0912121493 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 9 Dec 93 pp 28, 25

[Report by Ahmad Kurayshan]

[Text] In his presentation at the State Security Court yesterday, military prosecutor Major Muhannad Hijazi asked that the defendants in the al-Tahrir [Liberation] Party trial be convicted of the three charges brought against them and sentenced according to the law.

Maj. Hijazi said that the prosecution had earlier accused the 10 defendants, including two fugitives, of the following three charges: Participating in a plot to assassinate his majesty the king, seeking to illegally change the constitution of the country, and belonging to an illegal organization called al-Tahrir Party with the aim of rewriting the Kingdom's constitution through revolution and violence.

Hijazi said that during the trial the defense lawyers tried to cast doubt on the role of the public prosecutor, accusing him of publishing the indictment decision issued by the prosecution office at the State Security Court and the bill of indictment issued by the public prosecutor in this case.

The public prosecutor stressed his full abidance by the rules and regulations cited in the criminal procedure law No. 9 for 1961 as is observed in all other cases, starting with the receipt of news and subsequent procedures, including apprehension, search, investigation, down to the bill of indictment and list of evidence.

The public prosecutor reviewed the details of the case, explaining the role played by the defendants and the way they planned to topple the regime and replace it by an Islamic caliphate state after implementing the plot of assassinating his majesty the king. He also reviewed the developments of the case and the supporting evidence, discussed the defense evidence, and dwelt on the legal application of the leveled charges.

He then reviewed the witnesses' testimonies, particularly those of psychiatrist Dr. Radwan al-'Utum and Dr. Fa'iq Sha'ban, who examined the eight defendants. He stressed that the defendants are in good health and show no signs of psychological stress.

In his presentation, the public prosecutor mentioned some of the facts on which the defendants were in agreement when they talked about the system of rule in Islam and that observed in Jordan. They said that Jordan does not rule according to what has been ordained by God. He said they did not stop at this; they agreed to assassinate the king during a graduation ceremony at Mu'tah University in June 1993.

#### **Defendants Allegedly Mistreated**

JN0712135493 Amman AL-SABIL in Arabic 7-13 Dec 93 p 2

["Special to LA-SABIL"]

[Text] Amman— Families of students detained in connection with the Mu'tah University case, have sent strongly worded letters to the prime minister, the commander in chief of the joint Jordanian Armed Forces, and House of Representatives and Senate members, charging security agencies with abuses against their sons.

Signed by four relatives, a letter to the prime minister and parliamentarians, charges that on 30 November, 1993, security forces moved the fourth defendant [not further identified] from the military prison to the police court, ignoring that he has a defense counsel and he is in jail under a court order, and, therefore, under the court's jurisdiction. The letter appealed to the lawmakers to stand by their sons.

Another letter to the House and Senate members, signed by seven of the detainees' relatives, termed their sons' case a theater play in its final acts. The letter accused the public prosecution of being in collusion with security organs, and charged that the media is playing a misleading role. It called on the two houses of parliament to do their part in the interest of justice.

In their letter to the commander in chief of the joint forces, the prisoners' relatives demanded a full investigation of the case.

AL-SABIL has learned that House of Representatives members for the Bani-Hasan tribes have filed a request for a meeting with his majesty the king over the issue that has occupied public attention in Jordan.

#### **Ba'th Party, Other Newspapers Cease Publication**

JN0912151193 Amman AL-BILAD in Arabic 8 Dec 93 p 3

[Text] Financial and professional crises have descended upon three Jordanian weeklies and forced them to cease publication.

AL-BA'TH, mouthpiece of the [Jordanian] Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, announced it will cease publication because of a major financial crisis. The paper owes huge debts to SAWT AL-SHA'B's printing plant. Sales dropped after the paper lowered its ceiling and readers began to turn away from the paper after many writers stopped writing for it.

Informed sources told AL-BILAD that the party leaders' decision to stop the paper has political and financial dimensions. The leadership, which is preparing for the party's first public conference at the end of this month, thought it would be wise to defuse a problem that might undermine the conference. The problem results from the differences over the trend of the paper, which was dominated by right-wing party members. The party's members and friends protested this trend, which has become a cause for ceaseless squabble and which raises questions about the true policies of party leaders.

Informed party sources said the decision to stop the paper provides one indication. The leadership also sent some hints to the party's rank and file that it will no longer defend one of the leading members who is running the paper. The leadership thinks it can win the ballot the conference will conduct if it disavows this leadership member.

AL-MASIRAH, published by the Jordanian Democratic Progressive Party, led by 'Ali 'Amir, has also ceased publication for economic reasons.

AL-DIYAR, a non-party paper, has also ceased publication. The paper is run by Jamal 'Alawi, who also stopped his advertising paper I'LANAT AL-YAWM. Informed sources told AL-BILAD that Jamal al-'Alawi's partner, who financed the two papers, reached the edge of bankruptcy and fled Jordan, but was later brought back through the Interpol.

It is worth mentioning that AL-AHALI, mouthpiece of Hashd [Jordanian People's Democratic Party], has resumed publication after overcoming its temporary financial crisis.

**Al-Hariri, Christopher Hold Phone Conversation**

*NC0912201193 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Excerpt] There was a prominent regional development today concerning the Arab-Israeli peace talks. It was confirmed that a summit between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and U.S. President Bill Clinton will be held in Geneva next month.

At the end of his talks with President al-Asad, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said this afternoon that an al-Asad-Clinton meeting will help lay an important cornerstone in efforts to build a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. In a joint news conference with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Christopher said that Syria and Lebanon will return to the peace talks with Israel in late January or the beginning of February.

The U.S. secretary disclosed that before leaving Israel for Syria, he held a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri to inform him about the results of his talks in a number of states in the region. He apologized for not visiting Lebanon because the agenda of his tour does not allow him to stop in Beirut. He expressed hopes to make the visit some other time.

Christopher disclosed that he informed Prime Minister al-Hariri of the preparations and consultations before the resumption of the talks, notably inviting the heads of the Lebanese and Syrian delegations to meet with U.S. officials in Washington on 18 January. These contacts will be followed by other preparatory talks in which heads of all Arab and Israeli delegations take part. Prime Minister al-Hariri described this program as a good approach. Christopher did not say if guarantees were given to Syria to convince it to return to the negotiations. Revealing the contents of the talks, he said, would harm the peace process. [passage omitted]

**Al-Asad Briefs al-Hirawi on Talks With Christopher**

*NC0912203893 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] A telephone conversation took place this evening between the Lebanese and Syrian presidents, Ilyas al-Hirawi and Hafiz al-Asad. The latter informed his Lebanese counterpart on the contents of his meeting with

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. Warren Christopher had earlier announced that an American-Syrian summit will take place in Geneva in January.

**Hizballah, Amal Claim Joint Attack on Israeli Position**

*NC0812151093 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 8 Dec 93*

[Text] Our correspondent in the border strip reports that the South Lebanese Army position in Shaqif al-Naml came under rocket and machine-gun fire this morning. The soldiers manning the position returned the fire.

Elsewhere, Hizballah and the Amal Movement announced in a statement that their groups jointly attacked an Israeli position on the Haddathah hill at dawn today. The statement notes that a 30-minute clash followed the attack, which destroyed the position's control tower.

**Israeli Force 'Infiltrated' Sribbin**

*NC1012094393 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0900 GMT 10 Dec 93*

[Text] A Zionist infantry force infiltrated into Sribbin, in Bint Jubayl district, last night and searched the houses. The Nepalese UN soldiers tried to stop this force, which questioned several young people in the village. The force withdrew from the village this morning and took up position on its outskirts. The UN soldiers also intervened to prevent the infiltrating force from closing the Sribbin-Kafra road.

The occupation forces in Tallusah shelled the outskirts of Tulin, Qabrikha, and Majdal Silm at midnight last night. They also fired machine guns at the three villages for one hour.

The shelling of these three villages the night before last heavily damaged more than 10 houses.

According to reports from the occupied border strip, the enemy has annexed a strip of land 3 km long and 500 meters wide in the Marj 'Uyun plain, near the Israeli settlement of Metulla. One of the hills at Hula has also been annexed and early warning equipment has been installed on it. This is the third hill to be annexed, the others being al-'Abbad and al-Manarah.

**Christopher Holds News Conference, Concludes Visit****Al-Asad Accepts Clinton's Invitation**

*JN0912164793 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Dennis Ross, overall U.S. coordinator of the peace process, at 1100 today. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

The talks dealt with the Middle East peace process and its next stages. Mr. Christopher briefed the president on the results of his tour and his talks in the region. He expressed appreciation for Syria's cooperation to advance the peace process toward its agreed-upon objective. Mr. Christopher extended to the president an invitation from U.S. President Bill Clinton to hold a meeting between them. The president accepted the invitation. The meeting will be held in Geneva in mid-January.

The president welcomed the effort being exerted to advance the peace process toward a just, comprehensive peace. He stressed that Syria, which contributed toward the launching of the peace process, will continue to work positively to make it successful and make it reach the set objective.

**TV Airs News Conference**

*JN0912201793 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1850 GMT 9 Dec 93*

["Proceedings" of news conference by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher with unidentified reporters in Damascus on 9 December; in English—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Shar'] We'd like to describe the talks that he [Christopher] has had with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. These talks were positive, fruitful, and they were conducted in a cordial and frank atmosphere.

We appreciated the efforts that have been exerted by Secretary Christopher during his tour in the region. These efforts, as we hope, would help to push the peace process forward, and that the region might witness the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace.

Secretary Christopher has prepared a statement which contains a number of steps which generally have been agreed upon, and I hope these steps will pave the way for the resumption of the next round of peace talks in Washington. Mr. Secretary:

[Christopher] Thank you. I've just had a productive discussion with President al-Asad and Foreign Minister al-Shar'. I also spoke on the telephone this morning with Prime Minister al-Hariri of Lebanon. On the basis of these discussions and my other meetings in the region, I am pleased to announce that the parties have agreed to

resume negotiations in Washington D.C. To help prepare for these negotiations and to try to increase the likelihood that they'll be productive, we've agreed on some new steps:

First, I've invited Lebanon and Syria to send the heads of their delegations to Washington in early January, in the first week of January, for preparatory consultations with the United States on key, substantive issues.

Second, following these consultations with the United States, all delegation heads will come to Washington on or about 18 January to meet with their counterparts for simplified and streamlined talks. We and the other parties believe that these discussions are the best way to prepare for a fully productive next round.

Third, it is expected that the heads of delegation, in consultation with the cosponsors, will recommend that the formal negotiations resume at the end of the month of January or in February.

Taken together, we believe that these steps will energize the peace process. From the outset of the Clinton administration, we have set as our objective a comprehensive and secure peace. Since the summer, a breakthrough has occurred on the Israeli-Palestinian track, and there has been forward movement on the Jordanian track. With the resumption of negotiations in January, as I indicated, I believe that genuine progress can also be made on the Syrian and Lebanese track.

Against this background, President Clinton and President al-Asad have agreed to meet in Geneva in mid-January. President Clinton has met with the other heads of government involved in the peace process during the course of his first year in office. Such discussions at the highest level are important to our role as a full partner and active intermediary in the peace process.

President Clinton views this meeting with President al-Asad as an opportunity to discuss the requirements for reaching peace, a peace agreement between Israel and Syria pursuant to UN Resolutions 242 and 338.

Let me say that these meetings, this meeting in particular in Geneva, will help to put in place a vital cornerstone in our efforts to build a comprehensive and lasting peace for all the people of this troubled region. Thank you very much.

[Reporter] Mr. Secretary: What guarantees did you give to Syria, so that it agreed to resume the peace talks?

[Christopher] Well, we've had very detailed discussions, both two days ago and today. It wouldn't be productive and wouldn't serve the cause of peace for me to try to explain the positions of the parties. The parties have agreed to go forward on the schedule that I've outlined here. I simply cannot, and will not, be drawn into detailed discussion of the positions of the parties as I've tried to serve as an intermediary regarding those positions.

[Reporter] Mr. Secretary: Is the Madrid formula still alive, and what has transpired from Israel for Syria to agree on the resumption of the talks?

[Christopher] Absolutely, the Madrid formula is alive and well. As a matter of fact, these meetings in January are a full effort to carry forward with the Madrid formula. As I said in my statement, there was a breakthrough on the Palestinian track. There's been some forward movement on the Jordanian track. But there's been no movement on the Lebanese or Syrian tracks since last September. Indeed, they haven't met since that time. So, I think these meetings are a reinvigoration of the Madrid process, and we think they all serve the propose of the Madrid process.

[Reporter] Mr. Secretary: Does the United States intend to roll back any of the terrorism-related sanctions against Syria, or is the United States considering the rolling back of any of these sanctions, perhaps the ones in 1986? And could you please describe the State Department's current assessment of Syria's support for terrorist groups, its human rights record, and its involvement in drug trafficking, and whether this record has changed since the State Department's last annual report on these three issues?

[Christopher] I think that's six or seven questions. [laughter] We have no plans ...

[Al-Shar', interrupting] ...prefabricated [laughter]

[Christopher] We have no plans at present time to change the position of the United States on the issues that you raised, and there's been no change on our evaluation of the matters that you mentioned. And I think beyond that I will not go at this time.

[Reporter] In light of that, Mr. Secretary, if there has been no change, what is it that has changed that supports or justifies a summit meeting between President Clinton and President al-Asad?

[Christopher] Well, on that subject let me say several things. First, the United States is determined to play its role as a full partner in the peace process. Syria is a very important country for that peace process, as we've observed over the last days and weeks. I think it's important to remember that President Clinton has met with the leaders of the other three countries involved in the peace process, or the other three entities, I should say, involved in the peace process. And so I think it is appropriate indeed, natural for him, to be meeting with President al-Asad at this time. The purpose of the meeting will be to move the peace process forward, and I think it's entirely justified in meeting for that purpose.

[Al-Shar'] May I add to what the secretary has said: For your information, President al-Asad has been invited for the last 20 years by each and every American president to meet with him. And as a matter of fact—now this is reality and you can check the records—that we have always been, as far as our president is concerned, invited

by American presidents. Of course, I think the agreement for the two presidents to meet, as Secretary Christopher has said, would help very much to invigorate and to help push the peace process forward. Peace is so essential not only for the peoples of the region but for the United States and for the whole world, and such a meeting is important, and I think it would produce results.

[Reporter, in Arabic] Your Excellency Mr. Minister: Some reports have mentioned a U.S. draft proposal on a four-stage [Israeli] withdrawal from the Golan. Was this issue raised in Damascus? Do you accept this proposal, and what do you think of this withdrawal?

[Al-Shar', in Arabic] First, this proposal is untrue. We have not heard about it. It is only press reports. At any rate, Syria rejects this proposal. We in Syria will not accept the achievement of the aspired peace in the region unless there is full withdrawal from occupied Syrian Golan.

[Reporter] Mr. Secretary, can you tell us whether or not you have received any commitments from the Syrians about the peace process that you did not have prior to issuing the invitation? Was there any new commitment from the Syrians? That is number one for you. And, for Foreign Minister al-Shar': Can you tell us whether you believe it is fair, the American positions on terrorism with regard to Syria? Do you feel that being on the terrorist list is fair and accurate?

[Al-Shar'] First of all, in response to your question, I would like to tell you that the Syrian people do not believe in that list of terrorism. They know their leadership, they know their government, that we are combating terrorism. But at the same time, we do not agree with those who think, for instance, the intifadah against occupation is a terrorist act. And if there is a difference in interpretation this is a major difference. I said to many American Congressmen who visited Syria, and I said it last Monday, last Sunday, I guess, with the Secretary Christopher, that why the Palestinians are in Syria where they should be. Where is their homeland? Who has displaced them? Who pushed them out of their country? Who is the real terrorist? And because we have given safe haven for them and refuge for those Palestinians who have been displaced, we are accused of terrorism. I mean this is nonsense. That's why we don't care about this list. We don't believe in it. If you leave it for another decade, we wouldn't bother. I mean, to tell you the truth. But at the same time, I would like to say that we have conducted good talks with Secretary Christopher. The atmosphere was cordial, productive, fruitful, in order to achieve what everybody is seeking, that is, a just and comprehensive peace in this region, which is the highest priority.

[Reporter, in Arabic] On what basis has Syria agreed to return to the negotiating table?

[Al-Shar'] Well, we have said there are a number of steps to be taken to pave the way for the resumption of the next round of peace talks. Certainly, you know our

position regarding withdrawal—full withdrawal—and you know that we have had very good talks. We have been assured by Secretary Christopher that the bases for the resumption of the peace talks are still valid, and that's why we are confident that the next round of peace talks will give results. This is what we hope and this is what we work for, because we are committed to peace. This is a strategic option for us and we will continue to work with the American side as a full partner, an honest intermediary, and we hope all of us will achieve these objectives.

[Reporter] Are you more hopeful now that UN resolutions 242 and 338 would be implemented as a result of these talks?

[Al-Shar'] Sure, otherwise we wouldn't go for a second or a next round of peace talks.

[Reporter, in Arabic] Did the Syrian-American talks address Resolution 425 and the issue of withdrawal from south Lebanon, especially against the background of a U.S. Russian, and Norwegian draft bypassing that resolution?

[Al-Shar', in Arabic] Resolution 425 pertaining to Lebanon came up in the discussions between Mr. Christopher and his excellency the president at today's talks. Syria expressed its anxiety at the failure to incorporate Resolution 425 in the draft resolution submitted by the United States, Russia, and Norway about the Middle East peace process. We coordinated with Lebanon. I had a telephone conversation with Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz. We agreed to introduce an amendment to the said draft resolution that incorporates Resolution 425. We think it makes absolute sense that resolution 425 is introduced alongside Resolutions 242 and 338. This is because when Lebanon went to Madrid it did so in accordance with a message sent by the United States to the Lebanese Government inviting it to join the peace process on the basis of Resolution 425. Consequently that resolution should be incorporated.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] any difference in the resumption of peace talks when we keep hearing full withdrawal for full peace? Number one. And number two, if there is any agreement reached on the Golan Heights, would you commit U.S. troops to enforcing that agreement?

[Christopher] I think we can hope for good results, because the parties in the region desire to get back to the negotiations. There's been progress on some of the tracks. I think there is a need for progress on the other tracks. One of the principal convictions I come away with from this trip to the region—and it's not a new one, but it's a reinforced one—and that is the need for a comprehensive peace. All of these tracks need to move forward, not precisely on the same pace, but I leave the region tomorrow, I think, reinforced in the view that we must as cosponsors and a full partner do our very best to make certain that the search for peace is comprehensive and that only in that way will it be a just and lasting peace. I

think it is in those terms that I am encouraged to move forward with these discussions. Thank you very much.

[Al-Shar'] Thank you.

### Christopher Departs 9 Dec

JN0912215093 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2135 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher left Damascus this evening following a one-day visit to the Syrian Arab Republic.

Christopher was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', senior Foreign Ministry officials, the Syrian ambassador in Washington, and the U.S. ambassador in Damascus.

### Al-Zu'bi, Lebanese Minister Hold Talks

JN0912142993 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic

[Text] At 1300 today, Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi received Mr. Ilyas Hubayqah, Lebanon's minister of water and electricity, and Mr. Nasri Khuri, secretary general of the Higher Syrian-Lebanese Council, and their delegation. Irrigation Minister Engineer 'Abd-al-Rahman Madani attended the meeting. The two sides talked about the brotherly and cooperative relations between Syria and Lebanon, with special emphasis on water and electricity. Hubayqah arrived in Damascus earlier in the day.

### Cypriot House Speaker Galanos, Delegation Meet Leaders

#### Talks Held With People's Assembly Group

JN0712215993 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 7 Dec 93

[Text] The People's Assembly delegation, headed by Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah, and the Cypriot House of Representatives delegation, headed by House President Alexis Galanos, held a round of talks at the People's Assembly building today. Talks centered on parliamentary relations and ways to promote them. They also reviewed international developments, the peace process, and the situation in Cyprus.

The two delegations agreed to promote the role of both parliaments' friendship committees, exchange parliamentary delegations and visits, and to strengthen cooperation and cooperation in international parliamentary circles. They will also exert joint efforts to promote relations between the two countries in the fields of trade, industry, culture, and tourism.

### Foreign Minister Receives Galanos

JN0812095893 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2115 GMT 7 Dec 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this evening received a Cypriot parliamentary delegation headed by Alexis Galanos, speaker of the Cypriot House of Representatives. Shakir Is'ayyid, head of the Arab and Foreign Relations Committee of the People's Assembly, attended.

During the meeting, the talks addressed the international situation, regional developments, the peace process, and the Cypriot problem. The friendly bilateral ties were also discussed.

### Vice President Meets Galanos

JN0912143293 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] At 1100 today, Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received a Cypriot parliamentary delegation led by Alexis Galanos, speaker of the Cypriot House of Representatives. Attended by Shakir Is'ayyid, chairman of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee of the People's Assembly, and the Cypriot ambassador in Damascus, the meeting addressed world and regional developments, as well as bilateral ties.

### Al-Asad Receives Delegation

I'C1012142393 Nicosia CYPRUS NEWS AGENCY in English 1447 GMT 10 Nov 93

[Text] Nicosia, Dec 10 (CNA)—Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has received a Cyprus interparliamentary delegation, headed by House of Representatives President Alexis Galanos, an official announcement said here Friday [10 December].

At their two-hour long meeting, the two sides reviewed in detail current international developments following the end of the cold war.

They discussed in depth bilateral relations and ways to have them strengthened further.

Syria reaffirmed its support and solidarity with efforts made by the Cyprus government to reach a just and viable solution of the protracted Cyprus issue.

Cyprus expressed support for the Syrian positions in regard to the Middle East problem and the efforts to achieve peace in the region.

The Cyprus delegation, which was in Syria for an official visit, was received by Premier Mahmud al-Zu'bi and had talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

### Talas Addresses Military Graduates, Views Peace Process

JN0912183793 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Excerpts] Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, a ceremony was held this morning to mark the graduation of a new class of officers at the Political-Military College. Lieutenant General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, represented the president at the graduation ceremony. [passage omitted]

Lt. Gen. Mustafa Talas, representing the commander in chief, delivered a speech. He began by conveying President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings to the class of political guidance officers and his wishes for their success in performing their noble tasks. [passage omitted]

In his speech, his excellency the lieutenant general reviewed the political situation in the region and the peace process. He attributed the foundering of the peace talks and the failure to reach any tangible, practical results since the Madrid conference to Israeli intransigence and the Tel Aviv rulers' attempts to do everything to obstruct the peace process, which contravenes Israel's aggressive, expansionist dreams.

He said successive events in the region proved the soundness of the Syrian viewpoint and leader al-Asad's far-sightedness, which are based on a full awareness of Israel's aggressive intentions against all Arabs.

The representative of the commander in chief affirmed that Syria, which bravely, proudly, and strongly fought the battles of honor and liberation in October [1973], is now waging the peace battle with complete awareness and commitment. He said: Nobody can bypass Syria or circumvent its effective role in the region. Al-Asad's Syria has announced that it is for a just, comprehensive peace that restores Arab land and rights; in other words, comprehensive peace in return for full withdrawal without relinquishment of national and pan-Arab rights. This is what our leader and symbol, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, meant when he said: The peace that Syria hopes for is the peace that enables everyone with a right to restore his right, and one that gives security and tranquillity for all.

Concluding his speech, Lt. Gen. Mustafa Talas thanked the Political Directorate, the Political-Military College, and its officers, instructors, and lecturers for their efforts to prepare this class of political guides. [passage omitted]

## Afghanistan

### Rabbani Signs Press Law, Comments

*LD0912223893 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Excerpts] Dear listeners of Radio Afghanistan, as we reported in this evening's newscasts, esteemed Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani, president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, hoping for the maintenance of nationwide and lasting peace, today signed the country's Press Law. He gave a speech on the occasion, to which we hereby draw your attention:

[Begin Rabbani recording in Dari] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. First I thank the commission for their efforts [words indistinct] in preparing the draft press law. [passage indistinct] [passage omitted]

The grounds for work should be provided for those who have a part to play in writing or with words. However, we should note that words are important, and should be uttered by society, and we should not create obstacles before anyone so that people are not able to say what they want. [passage omitted] It is the truth: People should say what they want. Criticism should be a part of Islamic society. If people do not speak the truth in an Islamic society, there is no [word indistinct] in such a society. And if the rulers of a society silence the tongues of the people, [words indistinct] such rulers do not have any suitable place in Islam—those who create obstacles in the face of the freedom of press. It is a reality that fair conditions should be created for the press—a responsible press—in an Islamic society, so that a variety of initiatives in a variety of dimensions are present in the press. Of course, as the freedom of the press is a principle, the decency of what is being said and the obligation to the ethics of writing is an important matter. Not everything should be said. But no one's prestige and honor will be attacked.

Everyone has a right and everyone should respect the rights of others. I am sure that when the press is based on Islamic culture in a country, no one will face restrictions and no one will be insulted. A writer and a speaker will know his rights and those of others. A person who holds a pen in his hand does not write whatever he likes. He writes correctly. Therefore the freedom of press is of no danger to anyone. It is dangerous only to those who embark on oppression and shedding blood. Surely corrupt people are scared of a free press. Those who want to reform have no fear of the freedom of the press. And the freedom of the press must be protected. The rights of a writer, the rights of the people, the rights of a critic and the one being criticized, should all be specific. Everyone should know his rights, and should not say or write anything that cannot be carried in the press, or say or write anything that will undermine the dignity of the people. A society where no freedom of the press exists cannot take a positive step toward reform. Where one cannot call an oppressor oppressor [words indistinct].

Islamic society should not be a coward, but it should call what is good, good, and what is bad, bad. It is not true that the acts of a ruler should not be criticized. Realities should be reported. The truth should be told to an oppressor, to someone who is corrupt so that they cannot embark on bloodshed or on an illegitimate act.

Now the Islamic state, which is based on Islamic tenets, has decided to pass a Press Law on the freedom of the press on its own initiative, and without being under pressure from the people [words indistinct]. We hope that henceforth our press will be in line with Islamic values. Our press should be committed. Our press should be open and honest. [passage indistinct] We believe that a committed press, an open and honest press prevents many problems in society, and surely the corrupt, who practice oppression, will be prevented as a result of sound reporting. [passage omitted] [end recording]

## India

### BJP MP's Protest Detention of Leaders

#### Chavan Comments

*BK0912162593 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] The home minister, Mr. S.B. Chavan, today made it clear that the government does not want to politicize the detention of Mr. Advani and other BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] leaders in the cases relating to the demolition of the structure at Ayodhya. He was replying to queries of the members in the Lok Sabha today after making a statement on the detention of Mr. Advani, Mr. Joshi, Mr. Kalyan Singh, and four others. He asserted that neither the CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] nor any other agency or even the government can influence the court. Mr. Chavan said that a total of 48 cases relating to the demolition of the structure were transferred to the CBI in August last. The CBI has now filed a combined charge sheet in the court. Refuting the BJP charge that Mr. Advani and others were earlier freed honorably by the court, Mr. Chavan said that they were not acquitted but released by the court as the CBI has not prepared the charge sheet against them. Regretting that the BJP has not yet condemned the demolition of the structure at Ayodhya, Mr. Chavan appealed to the members to work for communal harmony so that the developmental work is undertaken for weaker sections. He said the BJP can move a petition before the court to secure the release of their leaders.

In an impromptu discussion following Mr. Chavan's statement, the Janata Dal, the left parties, and the Congress-I members criticized the disruption of the House by the BJP members. They said if the BJP is aggrieved over the events it can go on for an appeal to a higher court. They said the House cannot be taken to ransom as the matter pertains to judiciary. Contesting Mr. Chavan's observations, the BJP members said the arrests have been politically motivated and the cases are

false. They said the party will not petition the government for the release of their leaders and staged a walkout.

The House took up the normal business in the postlunch session after the BJP members stalled the proceedings yesterday and this morning. The House had to be adjourned twice till 200 pm when the BJP members continued their protest against the detention of their leaders. The BJP members who earlier stayed away came to the house when Mr. Chavan was making the statement.

The BJP members in the Rajya Sabha today staged a walkout during the zero hour over the issue of judicial remand of their party leaders in Lucknow. Earlier, they boycotted the question hour. Speaking amidst repeated interruptions, the leader of the opposition, Mr. Sikander Bakht, said that the home minister's statement in the house yesterday on the judicial remand of the BJP leaders did not convey the facts. As his demand for a response from the home minister was not met, the BJP members walked out of the house. The proceedings in the house were also disrupted for about 20 minutes over some remarks of Mr. P. Upendra—independent, against the home minister, who is also the leader of the house. Following strong protests from the treasury benches and a direction from the chair, Mr. Upendra regretted his remarks.

The 12-hour bundh [strike] called by the BJP in Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Katak city of Orissa today evoked little response. The call was in protest against the judicial detention of the party president, Mr. L.K. Advani, and other leaders. In Delhi, trade and business activities were affected. Attendance in offices was normal. No untoward incident has been reported. In Madhya Pradesh, shops and markets remained closed in Bhopal and some BJP workers including some party MLA's [members of Legislative Assembly] were taken into custody while trying to take out a protest rally in violation of the prohibitory orders.

#### **To Boycott Parliament Sessions**

*BK1012090893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 10 Dec 93*

[Text] The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] has decided to abstain from both the houses of Parliament demanding what it called rectification of the factual error committed by the CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] in its charge sheet filed against its leaders in the Ayodhya case. The decision was taken at the BJP's parliamentary party meeting in New Delhi this morning. The party spokesman, Mr. K.L. Sharma, told newsmen that the deputy leader of the party in the Lok Sabha has conveyed the decision to the speaker, Mr. Shiv Raj Patil.

#### **Court Finds Officials Responsible for Kashmir Incident**

*BK0912132893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] A court of inquiry set up by the BSF [Border Security Force] has found four officials responsible for the Bejbehara incident in Jammu and Kashmir in which 43 persons had lost their lives. The court has submitted its report to the Home Ministry. The director general of the BSF, Mr. Prakash Singh, said in Srinagar that formal proceedings against the guilty will be started after the magisterial inquiry set up by the state government submits its report.

#### **Iran**

#### **Grand Ayatollah Golpayegani Dies 9 Dec**

*LD0912174993 Tehran IRNA in English 1659 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 9, IRNA—Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad-Reza Golpayegani departed for his heavenly abode here tonight at the age of 96. He suffered from acute respiratory deficiency and lung infection for which he was confined at Shahid Raja'i Hospital last Monday.

The ayatollah who was the leading marjae' taqlid (source of imitation for millions of world Muslims) of the age, became terminally ill immediately after midnight Tuesday and was rushed to the cardiac care unit of the hospital but his condition continued to deteriorate despite the extra care and attention of his doctors.

The grand ayatollah went into a coma in the wee hours of the Wednesday morning and eventually left the mortal world minutes before evening prayers Thursday.

He saw the light of day in the village of Koukeh near the city of Golpaygan (135 kms northeast of Isfahan) in the closing years of the 19th Century and at 20 went to Arak to continue his higher studies. Later in 1921 he went to the city of Qom to study under Ayatollah Abdul-Karim Haeri at the newly opened Feyziyeh Islamic Seminary.

In the early 1960s in the wake of the death of Grand Ayatollah Boroujerdi and during the exile from Iran of Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, he became superintendent of the Qom theological seminary.

Ayatollah Golpayegani is author of a number of scholarly works and treatises as well as study aids and commentaries on various other works of scholastically abstruse character. Among them is an annotation on the "Al-Urwat-ul-Wusqa" (The Solid Chain), "Tawzih-ul-Masa'el" (an expository listing of religious questions with answers), the "Manasek-e Haj" and other works.

He offered valuable services during his superintendence of the theological school in Qom, and also helped establish almost 30 theological schools in various towns and

cities throughout Iran, as well as health clinics for theological students and other types of public utility centers in many parts of the country and also abroad.

#### **Khamene'i Expresses Condolences**

*LD0912210893 Tehran IRNA in English 2036 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 9, IRNA—Leader of the Islamic revolution Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i here tonight expressed deep condolence over the sad departure of the late Grand Ayatollah Mohammad Reza Golpayegani.

He was one of the pillars of the Islamic revolution and Islamic Republic, said the leader in a statement.

During the oppressive rule of the former regime and in confronting the bitter incidents which occurred in the years after the exile from Iran of Imam Khomeyni (1963), there were some occasions when the voice of this great personality was the only threatening voice against the former regime, which raised from the Qom theological seminary and gave enthusiasm to the Islamic movement, the statement said.

After the victory of the Islamic revolution, he had an active contribution in managing the general affairs of the revolution, said the statement adding that he unequivocally supported the Islamic Republic system and its exalted leadership. He was respected and honored by the late Imam Khomeyni.

The departure of this divine scholar was a grave and irreparable loss, the statement added.

The statement also said that the grand ayatollah was Marjae Taqlid (source of imitation) for 32 years, and a teacher at the Qom theological seminary for about 72 years, while keeping on learning and teaching fiqh (jurisprudence) for about 85 years.

He was the first person to establish modern theological seminary and the first great institute for Qoranic studies in Qom. He was the first person to prepare a table of contents of fiqh and hadith (tradition) by using modern technology and knowledge, the statement said.

He founded hundreds of schools, mosques and Islamic propagation centers in Iran and other countries and brought up thousands of disciples, said the statement.

Meanwhile, President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani in a separate statement expressed condolence over the departure of the Grand Ayatollah Golpayegani.

The president in his statement described the ayatollah as "one of the exalted pillars of the theological seminaries and a firm support for the Islamic Republic."

Similar statement was also released by head of the judiciary Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi who condoled leader of the Islamic revolution, ulema, students of the theology and the Shi'it Muslims of the world on the occasion.

#### **Religious, Political Leaders Pay Tribute**

*LD1012123093 Tehran IRNA in English 1116 GMT 10 Dec 93*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 10, IRNA—Several leading Iranian religious and state figures and organizations released messages of condolence over the sad departure of Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad-Reza Golpayegani who source of imitation for some 200 million Shi'ites around the world.

Grand Ayatollah Mohammad 'Ali Araki offered his condolence to the imam of the age hazrat mahdi (may Allah hasten his reappearance), and said Ayatollah Golpayegani's death was an irreparable loss to Islam especially the theological seminaries.

Majlis speaker, Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, in a similar message condoled the family of the late ayatollah as well as the scholars and students of the theological seminaries and also the Iranian Muslim nation over the loss.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, in his message of condolence to the leader of the Islamic revolution, Ayatollah Khamene'i, remarked that the late marja'-e taqlid was one of the pillars of learning and piety who trained many outstanding scholars over his long career in teaching Islamic jurisprudence.

He recalled that his late father, Imam Khomeyni, held Ayatollah Golpayegani in high esteem. The late imam's funeral prayer were led by Ayatollah Golpayegani.

The Guardian Council, the Assembly of Experts, the Society of Scholars and Students of the Qom theological seminary, and other bodies and associations in Iran sent messages of condolences.

Separate messages of condolences were also sent on the occasion by the religious minorities in Iran including the Armenian archbishop and the Jewish community, who paid tribute to the late grand ayatollah.

Grand Ayatollah Golpayegani passed away last night at the age of 96 after a heart attack at the Martyr Raja'i hospital in Tehran where he was admitted Monday last because of respiratory and lung problems.

#### **Pakistan's Bhutto Expresses Condolences**

*LD0912205493 Tehran IRNA in English 2039 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 9, IRNA—Prime Minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto currently visiting the Islamic Republic of Iran, has expressed her deep sense of shock and grief at the sudden and sad demise of Ayatollah Mohammad Reza Golpayegani.

In a message to the son of the late ayatollah, Hojjat ol-Eslam Javad Golpayegani, she said "the tragic passing away of this great scholar and luminary of the world of Islam would be mourned by Muslims everywhere."

She offered her heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved Golpaygani family, and said that she would pray to the almighty Allah to grant them the strength and fortitude to bear this loss.

#### **Cabinet Declares Week of Mourning**

NC1012070993 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Text] The cabinet of the Islamic Republic of Iran has expressed its condolences on the demise of the divine scholar Grand Ayatollah Golpayegani and has declared one week of public mourning throughout the country in respect for the lofty position of that prominent source of emulation.

The cabinet's statement expresses condolences to the imam of the ages, may God hasten his advent; to the esteemed leader, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i; to high-ranking sources of emulation; to Islamic 'ulema; to theological seminaries; to world Muslims and Shiites; and to his students and family and declares one week of public mourning.

#### **Public Holiday Declared for 11 Dec**

LD1012120993 Tehran IRNA in English 1013 GMT 10 Dec 93

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 10, IRNA—The government announced Saturday December 11 as public holiday throughout country as a mark of respected to the departed soul of Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Mohammad Reza Golpayegani.

The funeral service for the grand ayatollah who expired Thursday night at the Martyr Raja'i Hospital in Tehran, will be held in the Holy City of Qom Saturday morning.

A week-long official mourning has been declared throughout Islamic Iran.

The government expressed deep sorrow over the passing away of Ayatollah Golpayegani and offered its condolence to Muslims all over the world.

The 96 year old ayatollah was marjae' taqlid (source of imitation) for almost 200 million Shi'ite Muslims around the world.

In Qom, the theological seminary will be closed for two weeks and the city where the ayatollah spent the major part of his life, will observe 40 days of mourning.

Meanwhile the governor of Qom announced today that a headquarter had been set up in the city to provide facilities to those arriving from different parts of the country to attend the funeral.

The headquarter would provide accommodation and services to the mourners in all public places and schools in the city, the governor added.

The ayatollah suffered from acute respiratory deficiency and lung infection for which he was admitted to Raja'i Hospital in Tehran last Monday.

#### **Deputy Foreign Minister Disregards U.S. Moves**

NC0912170893 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 6 Dec 93 pp 1, 14

[Report From the TEHRAN TIMES City Desk]

[Text] Tehran—A senior official from the Foreign Ministry yesterday scoffed at a U.S. official's recent remark in Brussels and said, "It's not news to me."

Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs Mahmud Va'ezai was commenting on the remark of Secretary of State Warren Christopher who in the Belgian capital Dec. 2 said that Washington still considered Iran an "outlaw nation".

"Well, it's not news to me as the U.S. for the last 15 years has been repeatedly airing such undiplomatic and above all unbelievable remarks against Iran," Va'ezai said.

He said that a series of coups, economic and trade sanctions and boycotts "engineered by Washington" against Iran are crystal clear proof that "the U.S. is not ready to stop its hostile policy against the Islamic Republic."

"Democrats in Tokyo in the G-7 meeting spared no stone unturned in their efforts to convince the developed countries to keep a distance from Iran," Va'ezai said. "What happened then?" he asked wearing a meaningful smile.

"All the U.S. efforts are meant to keep Iran in isolation and particularly put pressure on its European and other allies," Va'ezai said.

"But," he said, "the fact is that the U.S. failed in its nasty objective."

Va'ezai said that despite all U.S. efforts, there are exchanges of visits between European countries, regional countries and Asian countries.

"You know, Iranian Minister of Intelligence Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Falahian recently visited Germany on an official but humanitarian mission, several regional ministers came here including prime ministers and foreign ministers," he said.

"These exchange of bilateral visits mean that these countries have rejected Washington's request because they keep their own national interests ahead of U.S. desires," he said.

In answer to another question, Va'ezai said the recent anti-Iranian moves of the White House are meant to divert world public opinion from the fact that their Democrat faced a humiliating defeat at the front of their foreign policy.

"Somalia and lingering on the so-called Middle East move are some of the few examples of bitter failures of the U.S. policies abroad," Va'ezzi said.

Asked whether Iran would put pressure on France because it granted asylum to the terrorist [Mojahedin-e] Khalq Organization's [MKO] some members he said, "It's not a question of pressure. The French should measure the entire issue with a political democratic and humanitarian yardstick which it boasts having."

"The terrorist MKO file is open and everyone including the French have read it and now the ball is in their court. Let them decide." Va'ezzi remarked after apparently giving serious thought to the issue.

He said Irano-European relations are traditional and historical.

Va'ezzi also mentioned that Turkmenistan President Saparmurad Niyazov is due to arrive here at the invitation of President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

#### **European Reaction to U.S. Policies Assessed**

NC0912161693 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 5 Dec 93 p 2

[Editorial: "Christopher Keeps Trying..."]

[Text] At the meeting of the European Economic Community in Belgium, the American Secretary of State Warren Christopher stated that Iran should be driven to political and economic isolation.

He asked the European countries to support the U.S. in its attempts to keep Iran in political and economic isolation.

Re-emphasizing the U.S. antagonistic stance against the Iranian government, Warren Christopher claimed that from the American point of view, Iran was still a rebel state.

This is not the first time the United States and its secretary of state have manifested their hostile attitude towards this country. Efforts to drive Iran into isolation and even attempting to overthrow the Islamic Republic have been part of the American foreign policy in the past 14 years.

However, in the Clinton administration, and with Christopher as the secretary of state, the American hostilities against Iran have taken new forms.

Tired of the delusions of overthrowing the Islamic Republic and weary of investing heavily on the counter-revolutionary groups, and in view of the fact that Warren Christopher is affiliated to the Zionist factions in the U.S., the new American policy against Iran is focussed on ensuring the collaboration of its world industrial allies in the American attempt to isolate Iran.

The U.S. Democratic administration's most recent attempt was made at the G-7 meeting in Tokyo in July where the American proposal was rejected by Japan, Germany, France and Italy.

The industrial world and particularly the Europeans who are geographically close to the Middle East and have a better understanding of the region's problems and difficulties, and are aware that the excuses offered by the United States in justification of its attempts to isolate Iran, lack any rational basis.

In the human rights area, for instance, the Europeans are quite aware that as regards the structure of government and the views of the political leaders on freedom and human rights, some of the American allies in the region date back to pre-Middle Ages.

The European countries have no delusions regarding the American administration's ulterior motives for adopting hostile policies against Iran. They know these policies are dictated by the American national interests, and that they too have every right to regulate their relations with Iran within the frameworks of their respective national interests.

#### **Editorial Denounces Clinton for Meeting Rushdie**

NC0912171193 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL (WEEKLY EDITION) in English 2 Dec 93 p 2

[Editorial by Ramtin: "Clinton's Rushdie Blunder"]

[Text] The last place one expected to find Salman Rushdie, the satanic author, an apostate, a man condemned by several hundred million Muslims for attacking their religious beliefs, is at the office of a so-called world leader who claims he is determined to work for human rights and freedom across the globe. President Bill Clinton's much publicized huddle, with the highly controversial author of the Satanic Verses, is yet another gaffe for his foreign policy establishment.

Impartial observers, both Muslim and non-Muslim, cannot comprehend the logic behind the open disregard by the Clinton White House for the followers of a major religion. No doubt this seditious act by an American president has not gone unmarked even by his allies and sympathizers in the Muslim world. Its symbolism will go further in deepening the dangerous divide between Muslims and the U.S.-led Western alliance.

Salman did not earn the death warrant because he wrote against the Islamic Republic of Iran, or for the matter the Iranian nation. The late Imam Khomeini issued the Fatwa—in conformity with the Islamic schools of jurisprudence—because the British writer had insulted Islam and the Last Messenger of God. Under the facade of "free expression" the architect of an overtly blasphemous publication attacked and humiliated principles the Muslim Ummah respects. It is also worth noting that the Fatwa against Rushdie was endorsed by the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

Almost all commentators and writers from different schools of thought and discipline are not unaware that the Imam issued the religious decree as a duty and in his capacity as a Muslim leader. In other words the ruling passed five years ago cannot and should not be considered and condemned as an Iranian initiative—something American presidents and their aides love to do. International public opinion obviously cannot ignore the fact that Salman and his stupidity have been severely condemned by Muslims across continents.

The world is full of non-Iranian Muslims. There are also those so-called "secular" Muslims who have a mind frame very much different from those who practice their religion and necessarily may not be sympathizers of Iran or its Islamic Revolution. Add to this the millions of good non-Muslims, who have all collectively made known their disgust for Rushdie.

Then again there is a long list of pro-western political, social and religious authorities outside Iran who strongly believe that Clinton's official guest last week deserves to be hated. Privately some government leaders have told their Iranian counterparts that they would be glad to see Salman gone, for good.

Another important point is that the Indian-born author has not done a service to mankind. His name is not identified with anything philanthropic, which helps the cause of world peace or understanding or makes life easier for people of this planet. The truth is that for nearly five years Rushdie has become a synonym for a good-for-nothing and all that stands for evil. Now, with little doubt over Salman's negative conduct, it remains to be seen how Clinton's delinquent disposition can be defended by himself or his senior advisers.

Sympathy and support for Salman Rushdie in Washington and London has been confused with the U.S.-sponsored program to "isolate" Islamic Iran. The anti-Iran western leaders will not discount what actually directs Islamic public opinion regarding the Salman Rushdie affair. The Ummah across the board believes that the author was condemned because his book is offensive. For this he will be punished. And, Clinton was nowhere near supporting human rights or free speech when he warmly received such an obnoxious man in the office of the president of the United States.

#### **Further on Pakistani Prime Minister Bhutto's Visit**

##### **Pakistani Spokesman Comments on Talks**

*BK0912163793 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Pakistan and Iran have agreed to undertake several important projects to promote bilateral economic collaboration, trade, joint ventures, and political understanding to further cement their relations. Briefing newsmen about the talks between the prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, and the Iranian president, Mr.

Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, a spokesman of the Pakistani delegation said the two countries also agreed in principle to implement Pakistan-Iran gas pipeline project for the supply of Iranian gas to Pakistan. The spokesman said experts of the two countries would identify items to boost bilateral trade. The Iranian president welcomed the Pakistani proposal to exchange rice for Iranian oil and directed experts from his country to sort out details for the purpose.

The prime minister briefed the Iranian president about the grave situation in occupied Kashmir following a massive killing by the Indian occupation forces in Sopor and increasing violation of human rights in the held territory. The prime minister pointed out that it has dashed (her) hope for meaningful dialogue with India. She declared that Pakistan would continue to mobilize international public opinion for solution of the Kashmir problem in accordance with UN resolutions.

The spokesman said Iran has agreed to become member of the proposed Pakistan, Iran, and Saudi Arabia commission to help Afghan brothers settle their differences and restore peace in that country.

##### **Bhutto Makes Pilgrimage to Shrine**

*LD0912202893 Tehran IRNA in English 1804 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] Mashad, Khorasan Prov. Dec. 9, IRNA—Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and her delegation arrived here today to make a pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Imam Reza (AS).

After the pilgrimage she met superintendent of the holy shrine Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Abbas Va'ez Tabasi, where she expressed pleasure over her pilgrimage and hoped that Iran and Pakistan could join hands to serve the Muslim world.

Expressing Pakistan's support for freedom, justice and for the liberation movements throughout the world, Bhutto expressed concern over the killings of Muslims and violation of human rights in Kashmir.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Tabasi replied that the massacre of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Palestine and other spots of the world stemmed from difference of opinions and mismanagement of certain Muslim countries.

Bhutto left here for Tehran after visiting the central museum and the quranic treasure of the holy shrine later in the day.

##### **Pakistan, India Urged To Discuss Nuclear 'Competition'**

*NC0912221393 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 1 Dec 93 p 2*

[Editorial by M. Nikzad: "Nonproliferation for ALL"]

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of Pakistan said about a fortnight ago that Islamabad would never give up its nuclear weapons program despite pressure exerted by Washington. She called for negotiations on nuclear non-proliferation which New Delhi has so far rejected outright.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Asif Ahmad also told that country's Parliament early this week that Islamabad would never roll back its sensitive nuclear program and insisted that Pakistan's nuclear capability would only be used for peaceful purposes.

It seems that the two neighboring countries have started a nuclear race with no hope of termination in sight, dissipating their valuable human and material resources that should be used towards real developmental programs. While there is international pressure on Pakistan, specially on behalf of Washington, on its nuclear programs, India is being left alone to do what it wants. It was New Delhi which by testing an atomic bomb in 1974 provoked Islamabad and began a nuclear arms race.

It is very unlikely that either side would use atomic bomb in the event of a war. However, it is evident that neither Pakistan nor India is willing to halt their programs, under the pretext of nuclear threat posed by the other party.

When both Islamabad and New Delhi are well aware of the dangers and the disastrous consequences of an atomic confrontation, why don't they sit down to negotiate their futile nuclear competition. The party which refuses to negotiate nonproliferation should be held responsible for a possible nuclear holocaust in the sub-continent.

A nuclear arms race would destabilize the whole region which is already suffering from poverty, malnutrition and overpopulation. Therefore, it is of vital importance for leaders of both countries to find a peaceful solution to this nonsense of atomic competition at a time when the ice of the Cold War has begun to melt and its criticality has come to an end.

Thus it is necessary that all countries in the world and in particular in the Middle East, including Israel, to commit themselves to the nonproliferation regime and stop developing weapons of mass destruction.

#### **Egypt's Stance on Israel, Gulf Islands Viewed**

NC0912090693 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 24 Nov 93 p 16

[Unattributed commentary: "The Egyptian Regime and the Repetition of Futile Games"]

[Text] Yesterday the interior ministers of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] met in Abu Dhabi and issued a statement supporting the United Arab Emirates' [UAE] claims on the three Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf. Also, in continuation of the wheelings and dealings for the Israeli regime and of efforts to encourage the

Arab governments to accelerate the establishment of relations with Israel, during his visit to Bahrain the Egyptian foreign minister continued his past mischief and once again interfered in Iran's domestic affairs by describing the three Iranian islands as Arabic and as belonging to the UAE.

The Egyptian regime is facing immense problems and a crisis at home. Mubarak's iron fist has been broken by the Muslim Egyptian people who are fed up with his pro-Western policies and his friendship with the usurper Israel.

The inability to put Egypt's political and social situation in order has plunged Mubarak into a deep crisis, hence efforts by his Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa to open up new doors to emerge from the domestic impasse.

Within his capacity as foreign minister of a big Islamic country with an ancient culture and history, Amr Musa is trying to stabilize the aggressors and the usurpers of Jerusalem instead of trying to gain concessions for the Palestinians. He is acting against the interests of the Muslims and is beating the drums of war, trying to spread discord and chaos in the Persian Gulf and to receive blood money from the regional shaykhs so that the coffers of the West's arms manufacturers will be filled!

Even though the Egyptian regime has played the role of stabilizing the trumped up Israeli regime, nevertheless it has taken one step too many in selling off the properties and territories of Muslims and of independent countries.

Undoubtedly Iran's territorial boundaries cannot be affected by claims from the UAE and Musa's support or by such allegations at forums that are geared at satiating America's avarice and serving its interests.

The repetition of the baseless allegations on the Iranian islands cannot legitimize the matter in any way.

Even though 15 years have passed since the Egyptian regime's efforts to legitimize the Zionists' aggression against Islamic territories and to gain recognition for the Israeli regime, the Muslim nations that determine the ultimate fate of governments have never approved such stances and have branded Mubarak and his ilk with the scourge of being the mentors of aggression.

#### **Egypt Trying To 'Poison' Atmosphere**

NC1012161193 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 30 Nov 93 pp 1, 15

[Editorial: "Understanding: The Key To Solve Problems"]

[Text] These days, political circles are again discussing a possible visit by the United Arab Emirates [UAE] minister of state for foreign affairs to Tehran. The visit was supposed to take place months ago but was postponed for reasons that are not justifiable within the framework of active diplomacy and goodwill. If this visit takes place, it will be in reply to a visit by the Islamic Republic

of Iran's foreign minister to the UAE in June, which was a clear sign of Tehran's goodwill to solve bilateral problems.

A relatively clear assessment by domestic and foreign political circles of the cancellation of the UAE official's visit to Tehran at the time was that hands are working to poison the political atmosphere in the UAE and destroy all grounds for understanding. This assessment cannot be very far from the truth because reports speak of the UAE officials' goodwill and note that, in their discussions with Iranian officials and through other means, they have expressed the wish for a peaceful solution of bilateral problems. We can clearly see the mischievous acts by some governments trying to fish in muddy water in the Persian Gulf.

Continuous efforts by Egyptian statesmen to spread poison and their suspicious shuffling back and forth to the area, coupled with the propaganda disseminated by colonialist-trained Arab mass media, clearly show that the stances in the UAE on the issue of the three islands—Abu Musa and Greater and Lesser Tunbs—do not take shape in a healthy atmosphere.

Provocations by colonialist governments and the propaganda fuss by the Western mass media are further fanning the flames of this atmosphere. All these have made the UAE statesmen adopt their stances and not in a healthy atmosphere of goodwill, despite their innermost feelings. Undoubtedly, they should accept the reality that the correct path to a solution is only through bilateral talks and complete indifference to the efforts to poison the atmosphere.

Perhaps the view expressed by Egyptian author Fahmi Huwaydi, who is also an Arab politician and whose record shows that he has never preferred the Islamic Republic's interests over the interests of the Arab world, may be a warning to the UAE statesmen. In an interview with AL-AHRAM, he said: The Abu Musa problem in its entirety is the outcome of the hostility of foreign powers against Iran; even all the UAE's diplomatic steps have been taken with the West's intervention.

If the UAE statesmen consider these remarks by this Arab analyst to be fair, then from now on they will definitely try to ignore interventions by others when they make their decisions and they will bear in mind that the Islamic Republic of Iran displays the greatest understanding of its neighbors and that trusting this understanding is the key to solving bilateral problems.

#### France Criticized for Granting Refuge to MKO

NC0912154793 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 23 Nov 93 p 12

[Unattributed commentary: "Why Is Paris Waiting?"]

[Text] A month has passed since France's hostile move against the Iranian Government and nation by readmitting members of the terrorist Monafeqin [hypocrite—

term used to describe the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] group, an action that Iran met with rage and public protest. Paris has taken no steps to overcome this problem. France's questionable move cannot easily be ignored even though the French have stated that Iranian officials were informed about the conditions for the Monafeqin's presence. But this cannot justify France's unfavorable act, which contradicts human rights regulations. Public opinion in Iran, including many families whose children were killed by the terrorist Monafeqin group in the streets of the country, is waiting to see whether the French Government will review this issue and its granting of asylum to this terrorist group.

The French Government also recently attempted to inflict a series of economic pressures on Iran. But these acts will yield nothing for the French Government; any type of political or economic relations will certainly depend on what Paris does about its anti-human rights acts. We should wait and see whether the French Government will conform with human rights regulations and whether Paris will finally decide on the terrorist Monafeqin.

The policy the French have pursued during the past two years does not conform with their allegations about democracy, human rights, and international norms. They are supporting a military and illegal government in Algeria and they have risen against those who were democratically voted into power by the people's direct vote. The Paris government is suppressing minorities, especially Algerians living in France, on the pretext that they are involved in acts that are against the Algerian Government and resorting to subversive methods to overthrow that government.

Recently, the French have resorted to violence against Kurds opposing the Turkish Government and have taken a series of security measures to prevent any moves by Kurdish rebels. France is arresting, expelling, punishing, and taunting Kurds and Algerians in France on the pretext that they oppose their governments and at the same time granting refuge to a group of Monafeqin leaders who have perpetrated crimes in Iran and who continue their armed activities against the Iranian Government and nation! What thinking in France does this contradictory policy portray? Does the Paris government endorse the terrorist acts by the Monafeqin group?

#### Yazdi Appoints New Judicial Officials

LD0712173593 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 93

[Text] Mohammad Yazdi, the chief of the judicial branch, issued separate decrees appointing Ferdowsipur, 'Abbasi-Fard, and Shahrokhi, to the posts of chief of the Administrative Justice Tribunal [Divan-e Adalat-e Edari], deputy for executive affairs to the chief of the Judicial branch, and the judges' disciplinary prosecutor [dadsetan-e entezami-e qozat], respectively.

## Pakistan

### Court Reserves Judgment in Case on Threats to U.S.

BK1012081793 Islamabad *THE NATION* in English 10 Dec 93 p 12

[Text] Islamabad (APP)—A bench of the Supreme Court Thursday [9 December] reserved its judgement on a case of Arshad Ali who was put under preventive detention by the Punjab government. The bench headed by the Chief Justice Mr Justice Nasim Hasan, comprised Mr Justice Sad Saud Jan and Mr Justice Saeeduz Zaman Siddique. Arshad Ali is brother of an alleged drug baron Nasir Ali Khan. He was detained when he allegedly threatened American Consulate in Lahore to kidnap a US citizen to use him as a shield for preventing the proposed extradition of his brother to US. Arshad Ali, according to preventive detention order of the Punjab government, also wrote letters to the American Consulate threatening to kill Americans if his brother Nasir Ali was extradited.

### Bhutto Comments on Relations With Turkey

TA0912192493 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1800 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has said that the relations between Turkey and her country are at a good level, and that she believes they will be developed further.

On the eve of her visit to Turkey tomorrow, Bhutto told ANATOLIA that during her talks in Ankara, the issue of developing economic and commercial cooperation will be particularly stressed. She pointed out that Turkey and Pakistan see each other as close friends. The regional and international situation, mainly in Central Asia, will be assessed during our talks, she said.

Bhutto stated that Pakistan will continue to support the legitimate rights of the Turkish Cypriot people.

### Editorial Views Iranian Ties, Bhutto Visit

BK1012082393 Peshawar *THE FRONTIER POST* in English 10 Dec 93 p 10

[Editorial: "Pak-Iran Equation"]

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and President Rafsanjani have had a good meeting in Tehran. It was right on the part of Ms Bhutto to make her first bilateral visit abroad to Iran, our most important and strategic neighbour among friendly states. As has been stated, the two countries need to coordinate policy on Afghanistan and Central Asia where the situation continues to be in flux. On other foreign policy issues, the two need to consult to avoid misunderstandings. In the area of trade, the two are lagging behind. In fact, if trade be the sole criterion, which it should, the spirit of the bilateral relationship does not match reality. Iran is isolationist; Pakistan seeks to avoid

isolation. In President Rafsanjani, Iran has a wise leader who will pull the national economy out of trouble. And economies don't oblige in conditions of international isolation. Most writers in Pakistan opine that Pakistan can help Iran remove its misunderstandings with the outer world; no one writes that Pakistan should follow Iran in its isolationist policies.

But there is paranoia among some of us. We focus too sharply on our strategic 'depth' in Iran in case we have a war with India. This kind of thinking doesn't favour an Indo-Iranian pipeline project for the export of Iranian oil. The fact that India and Iran plan to double their trade has also given cold feet to some writers. Pakistan, in fact, should welcome the Indo-Iranian connection and collaborate in the pipeline project. There can be no better surety against war than a project of this nature requiring peace among a trio of states. About the Arab-Iranian quarrel, Pakistan has been circumspect, with the result that it can today boast of having good relations on both sides of the Gulf. Any deal with Iran which can be interpreted as going against the interests of the Arabs or their security concerns would be an unwise reversal of past policy. Pakistan should steer clear of the paranoid rhetoric in circulation about the New World Order. Pakistan's two closest friends, Iran and China, have problems in this regard, but both can afford the economic costs of verbal aggression on the subject. Pakistan, on the other hand, has to keep India in mind, apart from the fact of its much weaker economy.

### ECO Highway To Be Expanded

BK0912161593 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Dec 93

[Text] The Economic Cooperation Organization [ECO] highway linking Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey is being expanded to provide communications facilities to West Asian countries up to the Karachi port. This was stated by a senior official of the National Highway Authority at a briefing in Karachi today held for (Tanazukh Sehrov), communications minister of Turkmenistan, and Afghan Deputy Communications Minister Dr. (Rasuli). The official said that the highway will be a two-way road. The Afghan deputy minister said that after the expansion, the highway will become an important means for increasing trade among ECO countries. The Turkmen communications minister expressed the hope that the highway will help in promoting relations between Pakistan and West Asian countries.

### Nusrat Bhutto Tells PPP Chiefs To Revoke Dismissal

BK0912100893 Islamabad *THE PAKISTAN OBSERVER* in English 9 Dec 93 pp 1,4

[Text] Karachi - Begum Nusrat Bhutto has issued strong warning to the members of the Central Executive Committee [CEC] PPP [Pakistan People's Party] asking them to reverse the decision otherwise future of the party is disastrous.

Talking to different delegations which called on her on Wednesday [8 December] to pledge support on her stand to reject the CEC decision ousting her from the party chairpersonship, Begum Nusrat Bhutto said that the future of the PPP is bleak because of the presence of pro-Ziaul Haq elements in the CEC and also around Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. She said since the decision of the CEC was illegal and unconstitutional, she has rejected it and decided to continue as head of the party.

She told the delegation members that she was appointed as party head by the founder chairman late Z.A. Bhutto during his life time. The decision of the founder chairman cannot be thrown in the dustbin by a hand full of pro-Zia elements present in the CEC. The power to alter the decision lies only with the masses in which the party has its roots.

While upholding her decision to continue as chairperson she has also rejected several patch-up formula brought delegations and personalities which called on her at 70 Clifton [Benazir Bhutto's residence].

Zia Ispahani, a veteran of the PPP, called on her and offered his services for a patch-up and put up a formula before her. Begum Nusrat Bhutto, without going through the formula rose from her seat and refused to talk on that with him.

She told Zia Ispahani that her decision was irrevocable and such she would not consider any patch-up formula unless pro-Zia elements are ousted from the party.

Zia Ispahani went to Begum Nusrat Bhutto on Wednesday and told her that in view of the close relationship between Ispahani and Bhutto families, he wanted to mediate for a patch-up between her and her daughter. Begum Sahiba thanked the gesture of Ispahani and left the place without any further talk.

Earlier one of her relatives, Begum Fakhri approached her with similar formula which was also rejected by her without any further talks.

Meanwhile the veteran leaders of the PPP called on Begum Sahiba and assured her of their complete support and help in her stand. Among those who met Begum Sahiba included Abdullah Baloch, Jaji Qasim Abbas Patel, Malik Ayyaz and President Sindh PPP Women Wing Begum Ruqayya Khanum Soomro.

Besides these leaders, prominent religious leader Manian Ehteramul Haq Thanvi and TV and film artist Anwar Iqbal also met her and assured her of their complete cooperation.

These leaders while talking to Begum Sahiba condemned the CEC decision to oust a lady who is the widow of

founder chairman of the PPP. They said that the old and young PPP leaders and workers are with Begum Sahiba and they are ready to do everything for the party which Begum Sahiba wants from them.

Meanwhile Enayat Hussain spokesman of Begum Nusrat Bhutto told the PAKISTAN OBSERVER the many CEC members and old stalwarts are likely to meet Begum Sahiba in Karachi and Islamabad. He said since Begum Sahiba is likely to go to Islamabad on Friday (tomorrow) morning, leaders like Meraj Khalid, Shaikh Rafiq and others may call on her there. These leaders were expected to meet her in Karachi but now they have changed their programme and will meet her in Islamabad.

He confirmed that a large number of Sindh MPAs [Members of Provincial Assembly] have assured Begum Sahiba of their full support and cooperation. They contacted Begum Sahiba on phone and convened their sentiments to her on Wednesday.

#### **President Leghari Observes Army Exercise**

*BK1012142693 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 10 Dec 93*

[Text] President Farooq Ahmad Khan Leghari witnessed an ongoing exercise of the Pakistan Army in Mianwali. On arrival in the exercise area, the president was received by Chief of the Army Staff General Abdul Waheed, Corps Commander Lieutenant General Ayaz Ahmad and other senior officers. After a detailed briefing on the layout, aim, objectives, and scope of the exercise, President Leghari visited a bridge laid by army engineers to enable the armored units to cross the water obstacle. Accompanied by the chief of the army staff and the corps commander, the president toured the exercise area. He met the troops and talked to the concerned commanders of the exercise. He appreciated the standard of peacetime training being imparted to the troops.

#### **Press Note Issued on Karachi Violence; One Killed**

*BK0912154393 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Dec 93*

[Text] The district magistrate of south Karachi has issued a press note saying that a small group of people tried to forcibly close shops at Maripur Road in Karachi today. One of the miscreants from the group started firing, and a person was injured who later died. A van was set ablaze in the Baghdadi area and some furniture of a (post office) was also set on fire in the Kaleri police station area. The press note said that normal life remained unaffected throughout the district except some incidents of stone throwing in Hingorabad area. Police have arrested eight persons and further investigations are in progress.